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ABSTRACT

Papers on library network activities in Canada, the Third World, Japan, Malaysia, Brazil, and Sweden which were presented at the 1982 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) conference include: (1) "Canada: A Voluntary and Flexible Network," a review by Guy Sylvestre of the political, social, and economic structures affecting library network development; (2) "Regional and Sub-Regional Clearing Houses for Library Activities in the Third World," a discussion by S. P. C. N'Jie and J. A. Dosunmu of the benefits, functions, organization, and management of proposed clearinghouses for library activities in the developing countries; (3) "(The) Present Status and Problems of Library Service Networks in Japan," a description by Madoko Kon of Japanese public, school, academic, special and medical library network activities; (4) "A Preliminary Approach to Library Networking in Malaysia," a report by D. E. K. Wijasuriya and A. Leong on the communications infrastructure of Malaysia and its library network organization and services; (5) "Information in Brazil: Diagnosis" by Aristeu Goncalves de Melo, which discusses information as an instrument of development and describes information services in the Brazilian House of Representatives; and (6) "Library Associations on the Move: Some Ideas from the Swedish Library Association (SAB)" by Margareta Torngren, which proposes the formation of an IFLA Round Table for Library Associations. (ESR)

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES DIVISION

PAPERS

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66-RE

CANADA: A VOLUNTARY AND FLEXIBLE NETWORK

GUY SYLVESTRE
National Librarian
National Library of Canada

A year ago, when I agreed to address this conference, I knew that the agenda would include a number of papers on library networks. What I did not realize was that so many of my Canadian colleagues would speak on the subject both in the plenary sessions this afternoon and Friday and in the meetings of the various sections such as the sections on Social Science Libraries, Information Technology, Statistics, Science and Technology Libraries, Parliamentary Libraries and so on and so forth.

Having the honour to speak first, I want to avoid dealing with questions that will be discussed thoroughly and at length during the week. I have therefore decided, Mr. Chairman, to take a different approach than the one that I had in mind last year, when I accepted your invitation. Then I thought that I would give the conference a bird's eye view of our efforts in Canada to create a network of library networks. Instead of doing that, I have now decided to make some prefatory remarks at the outset of this conference which will serve, I hope, as a general introduction to the papers that will be read and, make it easier for people to understand why we are doing what we are doing the way we are doing it. I invite your attention to the papers of my Canadian colleagues and particularly to three of them, those of Basil Stuart-Stubbs (Plenary Session, Friday), Cynthia Durance (section Information Technology, tomorrow morning) and Elmer Smith (section Science and Technology Libraries, tomorrow afternoon).

Today, the aim of my remarks is not so much to inform you about existing bibliographical networks but rather about the political, social and economic structures which profoundly affect the development of libraries and their inclusion in networks big or small, specialized or general.

The first comment that I invite you to consider is this one: libraries are institutions whose goals are defined by the more fundamental goals of the institutions that they serve; libraries have priorities that are set by whatever

level of government or by whatever private establishment that they serve. The same may be said for networks. Libraries can get staff and monies only to develop collections and to provide services authorized by the people who hold the purse, be they interested in supporting teaching at various levels, general or specialized research, or in promoting reading in the general public. In the same way it is relatively easy to get the resources that are needed to draw libraries together in networks if such an arrangement has advantages for its various members. Vast national and international networks have come into being and grown because they met some priority set by governments for the dissemination of information within the country or for the exchange of information between nations. Those are the kinds of priorities that always determine and permit the development and running of public libraries, great research libraries, specialized centres of documentation, data banks and networks of all types.

That explains why specialized networks were the first to appear - they served clearly defined goals - national defence, industrial development, medical research and so forth, rather than networks of general information. And that is why librarians have had less influence on deciding what bibliographical networks would be developed than have other agents, political or social.

Now, turning to Canada, we note that there are many decision-making centres. That makes it difficult to establish priorities and often leads to clashes of opinion. As I said a moment ago, what can be linked by a system of communications is a network of resources. The acquisition and safekeeping of those resources in depositories that are national, provincial or local, belonging to governments or privately owned, depend on programmes of organizations each of which wants its own needs met as nearly as possible. What a network of communications can furnish is therefore the sum of information held by all the participating institutions and it amounts to very little if the network lacks a first-class service for the delivery of documents to the clients of member institutions, wherever those clients happen to be. In other words, universal bibliographical control must make universal availability of publications possible and must be regarded as an indispensable tool to that end. It can be achieved only if banks of general data such as national bibliographies are complemented by specialized banks and if all of them are accessible both nationally and internationally. Hence the importance of the interconnection of independent systems - one of the major technical challenges that we

face. People responsible for the creation or the development of electronic systems for storing or communicating information can and must, therefore, contribute technically to the dissemination or to the exchange of bibliographical information. The one thing that they cannot do is to make the document itself available. That validates the whimsical definition that one of our colleagues gave of the book: "the physical manifestation of a bibliographical record".

In my view, when people talk about national networks of libraries, about the problems of creating and running them, it is not sufficient to talk about computers, protocols, standards and electronic mail - each of which should be used to full advantage - everything that supports information must also be considered: printed matter, micro-copies, videodiscs - and especially the geographical distribution of written documentation throughout the libraries in the country. At the international level, that is also true; access to foreign publications not available at home must be assured. If one is going to assure universal availability of publications, the problem of networks will have to have a global solution not only providing bibliographical control but making the publications themselves available whatever their format. If future generations are to enjoy this availability of information, it is important to ensure the preservation of mankind's written patrimony of which the recent part - the last century of it - is destroying itself before our very eyes. If we fail to move strongly in the direction of preservation we shall eventually have huge banks of bibliographical data, part of which will describe publications that no longer exist or, at least, not where they are said to be.

A country like Canada, and it is no exception in this regard, cannot afford to acquire, catalogue, house and circulate all the publications that Canadian readers and researchers need. It is imperative, therefore, to establish eventually - and the sooner the better - a national cooperative plan for the acquisition of research collections, if we want, as far as possible, to avoid unnecessary duplication and to free funds that will allow us to acquire collections that would otherwise never be available in Canada. Every country ought to have a national acquisitions policy if it hopes to cope with the information explosion, even if that policy is one of free choice and flexibility, and not dictated by a central institution. In my opinion, that is approach for Canada. But we have still a long way to go. We

are obliged to live with that lesser evil, namely, interlending and in the foreseeable future, except in the case of the large collection of scientific journals of the Canada Institute for Scientific Information, the supply of interlibrary loans will remain highly decentralized because Canada has no great, national, encyclopaedic library like the British Library. With such a decentralization of resources, a bibliographical network and efficient systems for the delivery of documents are imperative. It also makes it desirable to have a better coordination of acquisitions so that the resources available within the network can be as diversified as possible. On that subject, I am anxious to hear what my friend Ken Humphrey is going to say about the relations between the resources of university libraries and national libraries.

In this highly industrialized country of ours we are trying to set up and maintain programmes of higher education and research which are highly diversified and very advanced. And the challenge is great. Ideally, a national acquisitions programme should respond to a national research programme. I know that even in highly centralized countries implementing such a policy is never easy and I do not know how aware people are, in countries with monolithic governments, of the difficulties that defining a policy for research and putting it into practice can encounter in a country where there are ten provincial departments of education but no national ministry of education, where there are councils and centres for research that are either national or provincial and, consequently, report to different levels of government. No other country in the world with a population of twenty-five millions attempts to maintain such a large number of programmes of higher education and research, pure and applied, involving so many professors, students and researchers in a host of disciplines in such a large number of institutions scattered over such a huge territory. And that is not all: there are two official languages, a large number of ethnic communities, eleven governments that do not always find collaboration easy. It is simply not true that national priorities are merely the sum of local, regional and provincial priorities or that Canada is nothing more than the juxtaposition of ten independent provinces. It will be readily understood that in a geographical and political context like that, in a social and cultural mosaic like that and in the present state of the economy, it is not easy in Canada to develop a network of documentary resources, just as, in other respects, it is not an easy country to govern. However that may be, it is imperative to create a network

because the needs of readers and researchers must be met. Those needs would be no different if they lived in a country that was more thickly populated, richer, more compact and governed by one central government wielding political power and alone responsible for planning the future of the country.

It goes without saying that, as education is the responsibility of ten different provincial governments, those governments have to define research policies that take account of provincial resources and needs. There are, therefore, provincial policies that affect libraries. Public libraries, for example, are supported by provincial governments and most of them enjoy a healthy measure of local autonomy. The same can be said about university libraries. University programmes are, as a rule, not controlled by governments. The authorities of each university are responsible for them and are free to support them as they see fit. That explains why, within a province, universities that receive their grants from the same ministry, nevertheless, allocate to their library amounts of money which, as a percentage of their university budgets, vary a great deal. This diversity can also be seen in the allocation of monies for salaries, acquisitions, automated systems, conservation of collections, etc. That does nothing to make global planning and cooperative programmes easier. And what is more is that the distribution of library resources in Canada is extremely uneven. That is why nothing except a national network can ensure that all Canadians will have access to what resources there are. Some provinces have created regional networks of public libraries, university and college libraries and other networks have been created that cross provincial lines and ignore questions of political jurisdiction. In other words, we have an internal transborder data flow problem, as we do especially with our neighbours to the South.

As I said earlier, on Friday afternoon, Basil Stuart-Stubbs will read a paper on the various networks that I have mentioned. I am sure that you will find it informative. I have not enough time here, this morning, to describe these networks in detail but I should like to say that we cannot go ahead with the hierarchic organization that was recommended some time ago by the task force which I appointed to advise me on the form that the national union catalogue should take. At that time it was to be automated, and subsequently it was. The evolution of the various systems and of the new technology adopted make it impossible

to follow a straightforward, mathematically exact plan. In the present chaos what we need is insight and finesse. I do not know if such disorder is an effect of the state of the art; at all events, as I shall emphasize in my conclusion, it may well be that the best solution to our technological problems will come from the adoption of a new structure that permits the interconnection of open systems. We have a pilot project looking into that. Cynthia Durance will tell you about it tomorrow.

In any case, in the Canadian context, a national network of libraries can come into being only through the voluntary cooperation of federal, provincial, local and private institutions, and they will join in only if it is to their advantage to do so. The creation, development and management of such a network require a great deal of flexibility and, as information and methods for the transmission of data keep evolving, our only hope of success lies in a pragmatic approach. At this very moment, bibliographical information is to be found in the catalogues of different libraries, whether the catalogue is on cards, on microfiche or on-line through house systems or cooperative systems, the latter grouping libraries of the same type in the same region or province or in a system like UTLAS which brings together the bibliographical information libraries of all types in several provinces. These various systems do not have the same range of functions and, as a rule, are incompatible despite the high degree of standardization of cataloguing rules in Canada. If I go on to say that these very different systems are in municipal, provincial or national institutions, in teaching establishments, centres for research, industries, businesses - in some cases, the systems are operated by those institutions, in other cases by different sorts of consortia - well, you now understand why I entitled this paper: a voluntary and flexible network.

A network of the kind that I have been describing cannot be monolithic, nor can it be run by a single, central authority. Such an approach is unthinkable in a federal state like Canada where jurisdiction in matters of education is left to the provinces, where jurisdiction in matters of culture and research is divided between the federal government and the provincial governments, where academic freedom is respected and where the private sector enjoys great freedom of action.

It is, therefore, only by understandings or contractual agreements between participants that a national network of libraries can be gradually developed, empirically,

and run according to the provisions of different contracts which will vary, depending on the nature and the extent of the services supplied or shared. Such a network of networks will evolve constantly, owing not only to technological change at an ever faster rate but also to political, cultural and economic considerations which will continue to make governments and other institutions alter their goals and priorities. What I hope is that those contractual agreements will be more concerned with functional needs than with questions of jurisdiction, - what, around here, we call wrangling over parish boundaries.

Up until now, terminals have been linked on a one to one basis within closed systems and micro computers have been connected to large computers for precise and generally limited ends. The trial project which is now in progress has been made possible through the use of facilities of the iNet Gateway trial mounted by the Computer Communications Group of the TransCanada Telephone System.

This pilot project brings together several common interest groups in the fields of banking, broadcasting, law, real estate, travel, petroleum and libraries. Each participant is able to interconnect not only with other members of the same group but also with members of all the other groups. It is the first time, if I am not mistaken, that libraries are participating in such a revolutionary experiment and that they are testing the application of the Open Systems Interconnection model of the International Organization for Standardization, within the context of such a large and diverse group of data bases. The Bibliographic Interest Group is coordinated by the National Library of Canada and includes, in addition to CISTI, academic libraries, public libraries and legislative libraries within Ontario and Quebec.

The trial project tests the transfer of information and document delivery for patrons and the sharing of bibliographical data for acquisitions and cataloguing, through the use of a single terminal linked to a system which provides the interface between incompatible systems normally using different software and hardware. If the trial is successful, the present jurisdictional and economic structures, now used to negotiate agreements for the exchange of bibliographic data between independent systems will be radically changed. As I said earlier, Cynthia Durance, director of the pilot project, will discuss the whole question tomorrow. There is also an iNet demonstration at the National Library booth that I invite you to see.

In the library profession, there is a long tradition of cooperation and that is to its honour. The National Library of Canada has, for its part, benefitted greatly from cooperation and there is nothing more encouraging for me and for my staff than the voluntary contribution that so many of our colleagues have made to the examination and resolution of problems connected with the development of a national bibliographical network. The National Library has an Advisory Board, which has recently established committees to advise me on the creation of a bibliographic and communications network and a resource network. In addition, committees, which were established earlier, such as the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing and the Canadian Committee on MARC, continue to work. I have also set up a Task Group on Computer/Communications Protocols. As you can see, we are not working alone. That is good because we have plenty to do. Much remains to be done. We know that we shall never achieve a complete and definitive network but we continue to work together to ensure ever greater access to documents that are needed by those whom we exist to serve.

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144 - CS

REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL CLEARING HOUSES FOR LIBRARY ACTIVITIES IN THE THIRD WORLD

by

S. P. C. N'JIE

and

J. A. DOSUNMU

Meeting
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Over the past three years, the problem of co-operation among library and information systems of the developing countries has been agitating the minds of representatives of these countries in the annual conferences of IFLA. The most recent symptoms of the agitation were vented in the form of papers presented at the IFLA conferences in Manilla and Liepzig as follows:

N'jie, S. P. C. Library Co-operation with a view to having a Clearing House for Africa Library Activities, Liepzig, 1981.

Dosunmu, J. A. Establishment and Organisation of National Library Statistics: the Nigerian Experience, Liepzig, 1981.

Miss N'jie's paper arose from the discussion of an African clearing house for library activities during IFLA meeting in Copenhagen, 1979. The paper recognised the immense problems involved in an attempt to establish such institution on continental scale and naturally recoiled to making proposals for the four sub-regions, namely

i. Central African

ii. East African

iii. North African

iv. West African

The author identified the following objectives of the proposed clearing house:

i. To promote the use of the materials and documents of the members of the clearing house for sub-regional loans.

ii. To bring about economies in the use of national collections of the members of the Clearing House.

iii. To encourage the members of the Clearing House to liberalise the use of library materials among their respective countries.

iv. To promote co-operation and consultation among members of the Clearing House.

Problems arising from inter-library co-operation in the loans aspect were copiously illustrated. Problems of transportation, postal and telecommunications, language, varying currencies and foreign exchange procedures were identified and lucidly related to inter-library co-operation.

In conclusion the author suggested that:

i. a suitable National Library be identified by IFLA representatives at a future meeting as the clearing house for the West Africa sub-region;

ii. a suitable world currency be adopted for financial transactions among co-operating libraries; and

iii. the sub-regional net works be eventually linked to form a continental grid.

Dosunmu, in his papers presented in Manilla and Liepzig discussed the solo efforts of the National Library of Nigeria beamed at improving the poor response to its calls for library statistical data at the national level. He lamented working in a void - without the benefit of the experience of other countries. The problems enumerated in these papers included those identified

and treated by Miss N'jie and more. In his conclusion Dosunmu said: "There is a real need now for an International Clearing House on Library Statistics. This will help not only to monitor standards but also serve as a nerve centre for the efficient prosecution of International collection and dissemination of library statistics." He went on:

"The clearing house which must keep a number of experts as personnel in its service should perform these functions:

(a) Organise workshops, seminars and conferences that will expose librarians and experts in the field to new activities should also embrase the education of new entrants in the field for the efficient production of statistics in Libraries.

(b) It should also keep a file of experts in the field. This could be arranged by regions of the world viz: Europe, America, Africa, etc.

(c) The clearing house should also be a repository for statistical records and reports of all activities in the field. This will facilitate better production of library statistics, since this will be a very useful source of information to libraries especially from the developing countries.

It is my considered opinion that this international clearing house should be a hub of a network of regional clearing houses which in turn will co-ordinate efforts of national centres."

With this background the authors welcome the theme for IFLA 1982 here in Montreal as well as the opportunity to place before this august gathering our thoughts on the issue of sub-

regional clearing houses for the third world with particular reference to the West African sub-region. The concept - networking - is taken in this paper as amenable to changing situations as one travels round the world. In Europe and America a high percentage of its connotation involves sophisticated telecommunications and computer systems. We hasten to warn that in the regions that concern the authors of these presents, those items exist in very scanty numbers and operate at lower levels of sophistication.

Benefits

The benefits of networking in the sub-regional level in the third world are many. There is a growing awareness of the value of information as a natural resource for the achievement of national goals. Consequently networking appears more and more favoured as a device for ensuring availability of pooled resources of the interacting systems to any or all members as and when needed. Savings in labour and costs constitute a major attraction in a sub-region pervaded by acute shortage of skilled manpower and operating funds. Finally, self-sufficiency and a sense of independence collectively felt by every node within the net is irresistible.

Problems

The envisaged form of networking has its attendant problems at the sub-regional, continental and global levels. To start with, it is unexpected to be an uphill task accommodating the

goals of the user group in those of the identified centre/ clearing house without compromising vital aspects of either. Furthermore, the "owner" tendencies of a strong clearing house towards the "user" must be curbed at the design and implementation stages. On the other hand, the user groups must severally suppress their expectations which lead them to act as central facilities rather than remote nodes. One more problem in this type of networking is to avoid a "Closed Club" situation while maintaining sufficient discipline and commitment among users to sustain the network. These are all problems for design for which acceptable solutions are available.

These problems are mentioned here for two main reasons. Firstly, to ensure that they are obviated or minimized through careful planning and design of the envisaged network and, secondly, that whichever of the problems persist will be lived with more easily.

Type of Network

The envisaged sub-regional clearing house is expected to function as the hub of user group each of which is free to interact directly with any other user within the net if it is more convenient to do so. It is envisaged too, that there will be some inter-network communication channels among the sub-regional clearing houses. If desired, a centre to co-ordinate the inter-activities of these clearing houses could be established at the continental level. The type of information network that emerges

at this etage is hierarchical or tree shaped corresponding to the hierarchical c mmunication network designed to switch unto clusters of communication nodes.

If we cast our minds back to our initial example, the West African sub-region, we can imagine a clearing house based in any national library in the geographic area, interacting 'locally' with national centres within West Africa while functioning also as a node in a network of four African sub-regions with a continental co-ordinating centres (clearing house) at, for example, Addis Ababa. The Pan African Documentation Information Services (PADIS) based in Addis Ababa is a handy and timely facility for the type of networking proposed herein.

Organisation and Management

Because the need for the sub-regional clearing house is strongly felt, a considerable measure of contribution in terms of manpower, space, and nfurniture and equipment is expected at the initial stages, especially from the national library so desionated. This implies reasonable measure of independence for such institution in terms of organisation and management of the clearing houses within a framework of guidelines and objectives.

The user group will of course be expected to make contributions in cash towards the upkeep of the clearing house either through direct levy or payment for services rendered or by a combination of these fund raising avenues. As the network grows in volume and complexity of operations it is envisaged

that more sophisticated tools and equipment will be required for its operations. It will be in place to expect that suitable international organisations will be called upon for funding and re-organising of the network as well as for provision of experts where none can be found locally.

Functions

In order to meet the objectives identified earlier in this paper the sub-regional as well as the continental clearing house will be expected to perform the following functions:

i. Inter-library lending at the international level using national libraries or equivalents as nodes.

ii. Collection and maintenance of reports/documents on specialised activities in the library field such as library statistics, bibliographic services, library plans and buildings, etc.

iii. Maintenance of a file of experts in the various fields of library and information science.

iv. Organising workshops, seminars and conferences to expose practitioners in the field of library and information science within the region to new subjects and trends.

We would like to to end this paper by emphasizing the need to develop information utilities of the third world as a fundamental step towards the achievement of our various national goals. Solo efforts of libraries and even nations are not enough. A hierarchical orchastration of these efforts with the aim of maximising benefits derived from the scanty resources now

available is the main point. It fiets into the theme "networking" and we have very high hopes that at the end of this congress a step would have been taken in the direction of our aspirations.

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Section on Regional Activities:
Asia

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Present Status and Problems of Library Service Networks in Japan

by

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Professor
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Present Status and Problems of Library Service Networks in Japan. By Madoko Kon.

Japan has 370,000 square kilometer of land with a population of 117 million. The size of the land is 1/25 of the United States and 1/27 of Canada and the population is about half that of the United States and six times that of Canada.

In 1878, a public education system was enforced and no illiteracy exists in the country. Under the postwar Education Act, the present 6-3-3 system was established. The first nine years of education are compulsory. After finishing compulsory education 94.2% of middle school students go to high schools and above them there are 446 universities (including colleges), 517 2-year junior colleges, and 7,800 2-3 year special schools. About 32% of the high school students attend higher educational institutions.

In 1981 the number of new books published was 27,980 titles, the number of publishers were 4,269 and the number of bookstores in the Association of Booksellers were 12,144. The latter number might be doubled, if the number of bookstores not in the Association were added.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

There are two types of public libraries: the prefectural library and the municipal (city, town and village) library. There are 1,327 public libraries with 500 bookmobiles in all in Japan. There are 47 prefectures with a total of 74 libraries and 75 bookmobiles, Tokyo and Kyoto have as many as six libraries in each prefecture. While Tokyo, Osaka and Saitama prefectures have over one million voumes. The average number of books in the other 44 prefectural libraries is 320,000 volumes. Only Tokyo and Saitama prefectures

have book expenditures of over 100 million yean and the average amount of book expenditures of the other 45 is 29 million yean.

There are 2,397 (73%) municipalities out of 3,275 without public libraries in the community. 546 (81%) out of 670 cities have public libraries. On the other hand, only 335 (13%) out of 2,608 towns and villages have public libraries. There are 354 bookmobiles that belong to municipal libraries. Library services are concentrated in larger cities.

The Public Libraries Association published "A National Plan for Public Libraries [a draft]" in 1981. The four-layer-network was planned: municipal level, prefectural level, regional level with the National Diet Library at the top.

Larger cities have already systematized library service with central, branch and mobile libraries. A union catalog is compiled for the interlibrary loan. Common library cards a issued for the use in any public or mobile libraries in the community. Among the rest, Hino, Kawaguchi, Hamamatsu, Kobe, Otsu City libraries installed a computer for charging books and offering bibliobraphic and holdings information by on-line real time process. Delivery cars go around to the libraries in the comminity to deliver and return books once a day.

There, however, are some municipalities with well organized library systems, but they are not well coordinated at the prefectural level. This is because the prefectural libraries have not become large enough to coordinate municipal library systems into a network.

In June of this year, Tokyo Metropolitan Central Library publicized a plan for reorganization of its structure, rationalization of book processing methods and installation of a computer to unilize JAPAN MARC for better library services. The Library has procured a budget for a feasibility study for the reorganization and installation

of the computer.

There is another type of library system: 4 to 6 municipalities without public libraries jointly buy bookmobiles to offer services in their communities. There are six of these consolidated networks here and there in the country.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Following the enactment of School Library Law in 1953. 98% of approximately 40,000 primary, middle and high schools now have school libraries.

Nevertheless, primary and middle school libraries are still inadequately financed, stocked and staffed. Although schools are obliged by law to establish a library, its supplementary provision No. 2 read: "Schools may defer compliance concerning teacher-librarians for the present, not withstanding the provision of Article 5, Paragraph 1," which has prevented school libraries from their sound development. Therefore, there came out a new type of librarian called school librrians who have only a librarian's certificate but not with a teacher's license. There are now 8,000 of them working in school libraries as clerical staffs.

All-Japan School Libraries Association published "Some Policies Desirable for School Libraries."

1. Obligatory allotment of teacher-librarians
2. Establishment of resource centers
3. Inprovement of collection in the individual library
4. Establishement of joint-use libraries in the areas with a small population
5. A national network of educational information

This, however, is only a written policy submitted to the Diet Member's League for the Promotion of Reading Books and Libraries to supplement their planning a national library policy.

It may be the basic problem, preventing the development of school libraries, that emphasis is more on the preparation for entrance examination to advance to higher level of education system than independent study using school libraries. As long as this way of education lasts, school masters, teachers, and students will not be interested in independent study with the use of school libraries.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Under the Educational Reform Act that was put into being after the War, higher education faced great change: equal education for both boys and girls, increase in the numbers of universities and students, new appearance of two-year-junior colleges for girls' education. There were 446 colleges and universities with 1,9 million students. In 1981, 22% of them were girls.

There were 920 university libraries including departmental libraries and subject collections in faculty members' office rooms.

	No. univ.	No. vols.	Annual Acession books	peioricals	Average no. librarians
National	93	52 mills.	24,936	5,087	30
Local	34	6	8,352	1,536	12
Private	319	56	11,027	1,433	15
Average per lib.			13,723	2,203	18

As the above table shows, ninety three national university libraries have 46% of the total book resources. The national university libraries which existed before the War are larger in scale and collection with complicated structures, with departments, attached reaearch institutes and subject collections in professors offices.

Some improvement in library services came during the 1960's where undergraduate students were permitted to borrow books, limited openstacks was instituted, a reference rooms, copy services and interlibrary loans between academic libraries was initiated.

In January of 1980, the Ministry of Education started to make

a plan of a science information networks according to "The Report on Science Information Systems" submitted by the Science Council.

There are four purposes relating to the science information retrieval system.

1. Setting up the comprehensive collection of primary information
2. Reorganization and improvement of retrieval systems of secondary information databases
3. Compilation of union catalogs
4. Formation of databases

A Science Information Center to achieve those purposes will be established in Tokyo and begin its operation in 1986. Functions of the center will be:

1. Planning and coordination of points as libraries, information centers in the network for its sound development
2. On-line information retrieval services through international and national databases.
3. Dissemination of bibliographic information to the university libraries and compilation of union catalogs.
4. Guidance of services available in the network.
5. Research and development of soft and hard wares
6. Education and training of users

Since 1978 and prior to the publication of this final report, six national university libraries were designated and allocated a budget by the Ministry of Education to make a systematic collection of foreign periodicals in three fields of medicine and life science, science and technology and agriculture which is cont ained in the international databasis as MEDLINE, BIOSIS, etc. and not held in any academic libraries in Japan. 9,000 titles of foreign periodicals have already been subscribed by those libraries. This system is, at present, limited to the national university libraries.

Experiments and research of on-line information retrieval services to the scholars with international and national databases have also begun and secceeded.

By 1981 eighty four national university libraries out of 93 have installed a computer. Agreement on rules and procedures of interlibrary loan was made last year. Nine local and 75 private university libraries have also installed a computer in use of DIALOG, JOIS, LC MARC OR JAPAN MARC, etc.

As there had been no horizontal relation between national, local and private universities, a national-local-private university library liaison committee was born in the Fall of 1979 to discuss problems of interlibrary loan and to publish a newsletter twice a year. This seems a hopeful step forward to networking over the border of national, local and private university libraries.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Special libraries generally are small with 35,000 books, 350 titles of periodicals and 4 staff members in median. Most of them are closed to the public. Special libraries are caterorized as libraries in private corporations, local government councils, research institutions attached to universities, government institutions, associations and societies, and foreign government institutions.

Special Libraries Association, celebrated its thirtieth anniversary in June 1982. It has seven regional branches and 596 member libraries. SLA has successfully achieved interlibrary loan and exchange of duplicate or unused material among member libraries.

There, however, are so many different subject fields in which libraries specialize that member libraries with other libraries in the same or near subject fields of neighboring areas organize

a group to compile a union catalog of periodicals and offer inter-library loan services to each other.

According to the result of the survey made by SLA last year, 79 out 324 answered libraries have computer terminals and 12 will install within the next year or so. Thirty eight libraries have Kanji (Chinese characters) terminals. Popular databases used by them are JOIS (science and technology), PATOLIS(patents), NEED-IR (enomics and finance) in Japanese and DIALOG(Lockheed) and SDC (System development Corporation) in English. 77.5% of the responding libraries intend to use JAPAN MARC in the future, as yet they do not have terminals in their libraries, but potentially intend to install computer terminals in their libraries.

Joint deposit libraries has been a topic of discussion, formally or informally for many years among special librarians, but the rapid increase of the price of land prevents the establishment of them.

A NIST plan and JICST

On the recognition of its urgent task to encourage the dissemination of information and to facilitate its efficient use for research and development in science and technology, Science and Technology Agency in cooperation with related Ministries and Agencies is planning to establish "National Information System for Science and Technology=NIST"

A NIST plan, being publisized in October 1969, have been studied and partly implemented. Its purposes are:

1. Improvement of databases
2. Offering on-line information retrieval services
3. Offering primary information
4. Offering directory services
5. Promotion of model systems in Tsukuba district

To achieve these purposes, the following structures are planned:

1. Central coorinating system
2. A general center
3. Special centers
4. Data centers
5. Regional service centers
6. Libraries and depositories
7. Education and training of users
8. Research and development

The NIST plan has partially been achieved by improving existing Japan Information Center for Science and Technology=JISCT. JICST and its ten branches act as parts of a general center and as regional centers. A capacity of JOIS (JICST On-line Information System) became larger and numbers of data bases are increasing from nine to fifteen. Existing information centers e.g. Patent Information Center, International Medical Information Center, etc. are designated as special centers but these centers have not been cooridnated in networks yet. There have been several committees appointed to complete the system.

JICST

JICST (Japan Information Center for Science and Technology) was established as a special non-profit organization under legislative act in August 1957. JICST is under the control of the Science and Technology Agency. It has approxinately 10,000 titles of both Japanese (40%) and foreign (60%) periodicals, 12,500 technical reports, 49,000 patent specifications, etc. JICST compiles twelve abstracts journals in Japanese from both Japanese and foreign periodicals on a monthly or semi-monthly bases. They compose JICST files on JOIS. Abstracting journals are:

Chemistry and Chemical Industry

Civil Engineering and Architecture

Earth Science, Mining and Metallurgy

Electronics and Electrical Engineering

Energy

Environmental Pollution

Management Science and Systems Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Nuclear Engineering

Pure and Applied Physics

Life Sciences

JICST started the experimental on-line information retrieval service=JOIS-I in April 1976. A more advanced system JOIS-II has been operated since April 1981. Databases in JOIS are:

JICST Files

- JICST File on Science and Technology
- JICST File on Research in Progress in Japan
- JICST File on Medical Science in Japan

Other Files

- BIOSIS Previews (biology)
- CAB (agriculture)
- CA Search (chemistry)
- MEDLINE (medicine, pharmacology)
- SIL (scientific research in progress)
- TOXLINE(toxicology)

Supporting Files

- CHEMLINE
- MeSH
- JICST Holding List File
- JICST Thesaurus File on Scientific and Technological Terms

There are private lines connected with JICST and its ten branches with public lines to connect with 1,140 terminals in private corporations and research institutions. JICST provided over 130,000 on-line information services in 1980. On-line request for copy services is now available and 540,000 requests were ac accepted in the same year. SDI services are also available in JICST.

MEDICAL LIBRARIES

Cooperation in medical librarianship has well been organized in the most advanced way. Japan Medical Library Association has nine regional branches with 87 members, twelve associate members and a cooperative member. JMLA was organized as early as in 1927 to provide interlibrary loan system among member libraries. Agreements and a form on post-card for interlibrary loan system has been unified among national, local and private medical college libraries. The union catalog of periodicals are compiled in two parts: Japanese edition and foreign edition and revised every year to keep information up-to-date.

Interlibrary loan in medical libraries being done by making copies of periodical literature, twenty six libraries have telex to request copies. A facsimile copy service is on trial.

Fifty eight medical libraries have installed a computer for on-line information services from JOIS of JICST. MEDLINE naturally is in heavy demand.

Each of the medical libraries at Keio University, Tokyo Medical College and Women's Medical College issues five common library cards. A patron who has a common library card can use the material in the other two libraries in the same condition with the users of the particular library. This is another new trial of cooperation in

this field.

Science Council of Japan drafted a recommendation to establish a Medical Information Center as a national institution to improve the dissemination of medical information and to facilitate its efficient use for not only scholars in medical colleges but also for medical practitioners, researchers in related subject fields and laboratory workers. College and university libraries, including medical libraries, are closed to the public in the community.

THE NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY

The National Diet Library, established under the National Diet Library Law, in 1948, has thirty-three branches including the former Imperial Library and the libraries in the executive and judicial agencies of the government with 4 million volumes and a staff of 847. NDL is the only national library and bibliographic center in Japan. It has dual purposes: services to the Diet members as well as to the general public. Cooperative activities of NDL are:

1. Compilation of many bibliographic tools. Among them, there are two union catalogs:
   (1) Union catalogues of foreign books acquired by 52 libraries (annual)
   (2) Union list of serial publications in public libraries in Japan 1963-68. 6 vols.
2. Distribution of printed cards.
3. Distribution of JAPAN MARC tapes.
   Bibliographic data of the Japanese National Bibliobraphy (weekly list) accumulated on magnetic tape from a JAPAN MARC, the central database of Japanese current monographic publications in machine readable cataloging record. There are 124 libraries who subscribe to JAPAN MARC tapes through

Japan Library Association,

4. Interlibrary loans

Through interlibrary loan arrangement, about 15,000 books were loaned out by the branches, academic, public and special libraries. NDL is the only library that helps all types of the libraries by interlibrary loan system. International loan service started in 1960, 121 materials were loaned to the libraries abroad in 1980 according to the pattern drawn by IFLA.

NDL also offers photocopy service and four million sheets and 530,000 frames of microfilms were copied in 1980.

In addition to the new annex building, now under construction, there is a plan to establish a Kansai (near Kyoto and Osaka) branch, which will be a second service point for the libraries in the western parts of Japan.

PROBLEMS

1. Japanese people have a tendency to keep books, periodicals and reference books such as multivolume encyclopedias by his or her side. They like to collect and own information personally. Scholars, authors, critics and journalists usually buy books and have a fairly large collection in his study room.

As a result of not having used libraries in their earlier life, most of the older Japanese have no custom of using a public library. Because there were insufficient school, college and public library services before the War. In these circumstances, the importance of library services are not yet given enough recognition.

2. There is no professional position in libraries with some exceptions. The chief librarians in any types of libraries are not always professional librarians. Staff members with or without a librarians certificate change positions into libraries from other departments

and vice versa in certain length of years.

3. there is a strict distinction in national, local and private institutions. There is little human mobility in them and in the different types of libraries. It may be difficult to get over the borderline in different types of libraries for networking.

4. As I read above, there are many different types of networks planned by different types of librarianship and government agencies. There, however, is no plan to cooridnate them into one network to provide library services to the whole nation of the country.

There, however, are hopeful developments in librarianship in the last decade: number of public libraries and bookmobiles are increasing, new library buildings are functional and attractive, and users of young people and children are growing in number.

Courses for librarianship are being offered at about two hundred universities and junior colleges, level of training is not as high as that of in the United States, Canada or Great Britain. Those courses are well attended by the students who will become not only librarians but also potential users of the libraries.

Japanese librarians facing to the impacts of a NIST plan, Science Information System plan and sales of JAPAN MARC tapes by the National Diet Library, have to switch the ideas from conventional self-sufficient services to the cooperative services.

Our networking has only started. Please come and see our developments by IFLA Tokyo Conference in 1986.

réseaux
48e conférence générale de l'IFLA – Montréal
22-28 août 1982
Fédération internationale des associations
de bibliothécaires et des bibliothèques

networks
48th IFLA General Conference – Montréal
August 22-28, 1982
International Federation of Library
Associations and Institutions

1982

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, MONTREAL 1982

Division: Regional Activities

Section: ASIA

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207-RE

A PRELIMINARY APPROACH TO LIBRARY NETOWRKING IN MALAYSIA

by Dr. D.E.K. WIJASURIYA Deputy Director General, National Library of Malaysia
and Mrs. A. LEONG, Director, Sabah State Library (Malaysia)

Meeting 207
SI yes/no

A PRELIMINARY APPROACH TO LIBRARY NETWORKING IN MALAYSIA

Dr. D.E.K.Wijasuriya and Adeline Leong*

Introduction

The primary purpose of this paper is to present particularly to developing countries an approach to Library networking that has been adopted in Malaysia, which could conceivably be applied in other developing country situations as well. Although definitions of "networks" vary considerably, network participants are all interested, as a basic premise, in the sharing of resources. It is interesting to point out here that while in the sixties and early seventies, the professional literature was replete with references to "library cooperation"' the term appears largely to have been superceded by the concept of "resource sharing". Wijasuriya, Lim and Nadarajah in the Barefoot Librarian (London, Bingley, 1975) devote a chapter to library cooperation but make no reference whatsoever to the concept of "resource sharing". However in subsequent papers, both Lim[1] and Wijasuriya[2] have made reference to both library cooperation and resource sharing, but have tended to use the terms interchangeably. Today with increasing standardization and the progressive introduction of automated processes in libraries, it has become quite fashionable to talk of establishing "networks" and "networking"although there is still a great deal of imprecision in the use and understanding of the term. In attempting to link these terms more logically together,

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(1) Lim Huck Tee and Marina Dayrit. Resource sharing in Southeast Asia: programmes and techniques. Paper read at Fourth Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians, Bangkok, 5 - 9 June, 1978.

(2) D.E.K. Wijasuriya. Regional Library Cooperation: ends and means. Majalah Perpustakaan Malaysia. Vol.9:25-47. 1981

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one could state that libraries/librarians "cooperate" in order to "share resources" while "networks" and "networking" provide them with the technological means of doing this (sharing of resources) more efficiently, speedily and perhaps more economically. The term "network" is defined in the Concise Oxford Dictionary as

> arrangement with intersecting lines or interstices ... chain of interconnected persons or operations or electrical conductors ... group of broadcasting stations connected for simultaneous broadcast ...

Clearly the key words are interconnected and connected which imply a form of link-up. In fact Becker and Olson[3] define network as "an interconnection of things, systems or organizations". Even this definition may not be precise enough as institutions merely connected by telephone communication do not constitute a network. Overhage [4] comes closer to the modern understanding of the term when he defines it as

> ... a system utilizing communications by electronic signal transmission ... the utilization of a set of communication channels through which the information is transferred by electric signals

However even this definition may need to be further refined as institutions may choose to independently equip themselves with international teleprinter (telex), facilities, thus giving them the facility of efficient and speedy communication with any other teleprinter subcribers world wide. The fact that an institution may have a telecommunications (telephone, telex) interconnection capacity does not necessarily mean it is part of a network in the strict sense. Most institutions (libraries) even in developing

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(3) Joseph Becker and Wallace C. Olson. Information networks. Annual Review of Information Science and Technology. Vol.3:289-327, 1968.

(4) Carl F.J. Overhage. Information network. Annual Review of Information Science and Technology. Vol.4:339-344, 1969.

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countries have basic telephone facilities, while in some (such as Malaysia) telex facilities are also available. The telephone and telex here are merely a part of the communications network of the country, just as the country's road or railway system, except that the latter can be used to move not only messages and information (through the postal system) but also materials (persons, things etc.) from one point to another within the network.

Taking note of the preceding discussion one could define a library network as a group of institutions (libraries, information centers etc.) who have through formal or informal agreement consented to share their individual and collective resources, using modern automated techniques and communication technology in order to facilitate and maximise access to information. It is within the framework of this definition that subsequent discussions in this paper should be seen. Library networks thus formed to "share resources" may be interested purely in information retrieval or they may be interested in data input and modification as well as in retrieval. However irrespective of the objective, as Susan K. Martin [5] states:

> The on-line network ... requires a significant level of financial and organizational commitment from participants; it is usually based upon agreement ... that specific tasks should be performed and specific guidelines adhered to; it provides an immediate facility for access through computer and communication technologies to data bases ...

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(5) Susan K. Martin. Library networks, 1978 -79. New York, Knowledge Industry Publications (1978).p.6.

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Communications Infrastructure

In order to use modern automated techniques and communication technology effectively, there must be full understanding of the country's communication infrastructure provisions. This aspect all too often tends to be overlooked or is not given sufficient emphasis. Although a very useful preliminary study was undertaken for Malaysia in 1975, [6] it did not provide sufficient information on the communication infrastructure provisions of the country and on the short and long term policy considerations of the telecommunications authority, namely the Malaysian Telecommunications Department. Bjorn Tell, who served as consultant to the National Library in 1976, suggested the establishment of a Joint Committee with representatives from the telecoms and other agencies to draw up specifications for the communications network, to meet the needs of libraries. Although a Committee on the Technological needs of NATIS (National Information System), which included representation from the Telecommunications Department was established in 1978, no concrete proposals emerged and the entire NATIS exercise gradually slipped into oblivion through lack of interest and support, inadequacy of resources to undertake surveys and studies, the deemphasis on NATIS under UNESCO's General Information Programme and other factors. Thus up to the present time the library requirements for data transmission in relation to the telecommunications infrastructure of the country do not appear to have been communicated or taken into official consideration.

In the past, due to various resource constraints, particularly of skilled and experienced manpower, the Telecommunications Department had to concentrate on areas of major demand, namely its basic telecommunications services - telephone, telegraph and telex. Hence data communication services were assigned a lower priority. As a result, the Department only provided point to point voice-grade circuits on a leased basis for the

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(6) Lee Sau Lan. The economics of interlibrary communication in Peninsular Malaysia. Majallah Perpustakaan Malaysia. Vol.3:53-82, 1974/1975.

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transmission of computer data at speeds of 1200,2400,4800 and 9600 bps (bits per second). Agencies which leased these circuits are required to supply, install and maintain the necessary data modems which had to be approved by the Telecommunications Department before they could be connected to telecommunication circuits. While Banks, Airline systems and commercial enterprises with a high data transmission volume could afford leased circuits, data transmission vis-a-viz libraries, involving leased circuits was clearly prohibitive. It must be pointed out here that voice-grade, leased circuits have several shortcomings, among them:

(i) quality and speed of data transmission is limited since circuits are designed for speech transmission

(ii) maintenance difficulties for both users (leasees) as well as the Telecommunications Department since the supply, installation and maintenance of data modems have to be contracted to third parties.

(iii) costs are high, especially if the telecommunications trunk network between towns is used. Furthermore, use is likely to be inefficient because of the likelihood of low volume data traffic

It is anticipated that in the eighties computer usage will increase greatly.* There is also an increasing trend towards on-line operations. Appreciating fully these trends and developments and the inadequacies of existing data communication services provided, the Telecommunications Department is establishing a Public Data Network (PDN) under the Fourth Malaysia Plan, using packet switching technology and a protocol standardised for data communication by the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee (CCITT) of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), often referred to as X25. In fact computer manufacturers are now offering network architectures that are X25 compatible, meaning that they can be connected to packet switched public data networks. PDN is expected to be implemented in stages and tested in 1983 with the linking of the Telecommunications Department's mainframe computer in Kuala Lumpur to its minicomputers in Kuching and Kota Kinabalu. In

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* Over 450 computers have been installed in Malaysia and annual growth is estimated as high as 40%.

implementing PDN, the Telecommunications Department's main objectives are to:

(i) provide access to more than one host mainframe from a single terminal;

(ii) provide interconnection of computers and terminals in networks with widely dispersed terminal populations;

(iii) provide opportunities for international public data communication.

While tariff structure has not been worked out yet, it is very likely that costs will be much lower than the existing point to point voice-grade leased circuits.

Towards Network Development

It is against the background of the prevailing telecommunications network and its planned development that library networking has and must take place. However in Malaysia, at least at the initial stages, a library network was not strictly envisaged. The feasibility of using the MARC tapes for the benefit of Malaysian Libraries was in fact discussed at a meeting at the National Library in June 1974 and it was agreed that the introduction of MARC would be premature and that some preliminary studies would have to be undertaken first, specifically on

(i) communication systems between libraries;

(ii) acquisitions overlap among major libraries;

(iii) cooperative acquisitions including book selection based on the use of MARC tapes;

(iv) standardization of cataloging practices;

(v) the national union catalogue and interlibrary loan services as a by-product of MARC

These were accordingly undertaken by a number of Malaysian Librarians over and above their normal job responsibilities. Progress was therefore slow and although the studies were subsequently completed and published, it became increasingly apparent that an individual of sufficient maturity would have to be commissioned to undertake further in-depth studies. Although there were a number of highly capable Malaysian Librarians who were involved in these early discussions, all of them were

heading institutions at crucial stages of development and it was felt unlikely that administrative authorities would be willing to release any of them for any appreciable length of time.

It is purely coincidental that at this particular time UNESCO's Approved Programme and Budget included the following project provision:

> Pilot project in the development of a university library network. Assistance will be given to a pilot project in Asia for the design and development of a system of cooperation and coordination of library activities among University Libraries in an Asian member state. The project will aim at improving inter-library cooperation [7] ....

The University Libraries and the National Library therefore, following joint consultation, decided to take advantage of the provision and make a bid for the project. However, although the UNESCO Pilot Project envisoned a "network", the project proposal as formulated by the National Library made no mention of any "network" and simply specified the need:

> ... to design a system of cooperation and coordination of library activities among university libraries with the possibility of extending coverage to include the National Library and other large libraries at a later stage ... with a view to:
>
> (i) achieve economies through cooperative acquisition programmes;
>
> (ii) achieve economies through cooperative processing of materials;

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(7) UNESCO. Approved Programme and Budget, 1975-1976. Paris, 1975 (18 C/5, Chapter 4, para 4130)

(iii) maximise access to materials irrespective of their location within the country;

The system designed should detail administrative arrangements, manpower and financial implications as well as requirements in respect of equipment and materials in order to enable the institutions concerned to consider the feasibility of participation in the system either at its inception or at later stages ... [8]

Malaysia was subsequently selected for the Pilot Project and Bjorn Tell undertook the consultancy mission from mid April to early June, 1976. The Tell Report[9] however did not design either a "network" or a "system" of cooperation and coordination, although it did make certain proposals towards this end. These included the recommendation that the institutions [10] participating in the Pilot Project should:

(i) be provided with telex to facilitate interlibrary lending and improve communication between them;

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(8) D.E.K. Wijasuriya. The Malaysian research library network: a report with comments. Majallah Perpustakaan Malaysia. Vol.6,p.4-5,1978. See also H.T.Lim's The Southeast Asian University library network: SAULNET; a proposal and a model for resource sharing in ASEAN countries in Vervliet, H.D.L.ed. Resource sharing of libraries in developing countries. Munich, K.G.Saur, 1979.

(9) Bjorn Tell. Pilot project on the development of a library network. Paris, UNESCO, 1979. Restricted Technical Report. RP/1975-76/4. 221.3. Malaysia. Development of documentation, library and archives infrastructures.

(10) The project proposal submitted to UNESCO only envisaged the involvement of the five university libraries "with the possibility of extending coverage to include the National Library and other large libraries at a later state". However, since the National Library had prepared the project proposal, carried out direct negotiations with UNESCO, coordinated the consultancy mission of Bjorn Tell and chaired all meetings at the National Library attended by the consultant and institutional representatives, it was only logical that the National Library be included in the Pilot Project from its very inception. Pilot Project participants therefore included the five university libraries (Universiti Malaya, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia) and the National Library.

(ii) explore the possibility of using the MARC tapes for cooperative cataloguing;

(iii) take steps to obtain access to international computerized data bases, particularly in areas of special interest to Malaysia;

(iv) develop a cooperative acquisitions programme to minimise duplication and ensure wider coverage of published materials;

(v) publish a national union catalogue of serials to further rationalise serials acquisitions and maximise access to serials

Although the Tell Report was entitled the Research Library Network, this may have been purely to conform with the project provision in UNESCO's Approved Programme and Budget, 1975-1976. Tell himself fully appreciated that the development of a network in the real sense may have been premature. He states in his Report that:

> The establishment of an organizational structure and the development of modern communications will require some years to set up ... the first phase of the Pilot Project will therefore necessarily involve assistance to reinforce the National Library and the University Libraries so that they can serve as viable nodes in a future information network(11)

In his concluding section, Tell goes on to state:

> The conclusion drawn from this mission ... is that there exists a realization among the research librarians of a growing necessity for cooperation; this creates a fertile ground for the coordination of efforts towards that goal. The recommendations of this Report aim not only at starting such a network very modestly by the installation of telex, but also of creating an environment in which further steps towards a network of more advanced type could be taken.(12)

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(11) Bjorn Tell. Op.cit.p.2-3

(12) Bjorn Tell. Op.cit.p.29

It is quite evident that the installation of telex facilities provided the impetus towards networking. However several participants in the Pilot Project indicated that their authorities would be unlikely to provide financial support for the installation of telex facilities. As a result it was agreed that some funding should be provided by UNESCO for this purpose, at least for the duration of the Project, during which statistical evidence of use could be gathered, in order to justify to individual authorities the continued provision of this facility. In a University environment, it was felt that the justification for telex would not be very difficult. [13] UNESCO subsequently provided a grant of US$18,000 for telex installation at the institutions concerned. These funds were placed with the UNESCO National Commission for Malaysia, with the National Library authorizing the use and disbursement of funds. While installation of telex was effected relatively quickly at the University of Malaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and the National Library , its provision in Universiti Pertanian Malaysia and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (both located outside the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur) was delayed for nearly two years as communication infrastructure facilities to serve these institutions had not been fully developed. Barely 9 months later, a second UNESCO consultant - Stephen Massil - was appointed to study the feasibility of the cooperative use of the MARC tapes. Massil spent about 1 month in Malaysia - 14 February to 12 March, 1977 and submitted his Report [14] in May 1977. Massil's main recommendation was that it was feasible to use MARC for cooperative processing and suggested that the Universiti Sains Malaysia library serve as the coordinating center for the MALMARC (Malaysian MARC) System. Following a visit by a UNESCO representative in March, 1978, a grant of US$35,000 was made available for the MALMARC experiment. For ease of administration, it was agreed that these funds be made available directly to the Universiti Sains Malaysia. The experimental phase from October 1977 to July 1979 was largely concerned with the installation of software, testing and the conducting of trial runs based on a limited number of control numbers (mostly LC numbers)

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(13) Khoo Siew Mun. A cost analysis of using telex: a case study of the University of Malaya. Majallah Perpustakaan Malaysia. Vol6:13-34,1978.

(14) S.W.Massil. Study of the feasibility of using MARC tapes for cooperative processing. Paris, UNESCO, 1977. Restricted Technical Report. RP/1975-76/4.221.2 Malaysia. Development of documentation, library and archives infrastructures.

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submitted by participating institutions. Various catalogue outputs were also produced and more accurate costing figures were worked out.[15] The MALMARC System became operational in July, 1979.

Network Organization

The Malaysian Research Library Network (MARLIN), at its present phase of development, is confined to the large research libraries in the country largely because:

(i) the collective holdings of these libraries would constitute the country's major resources of published materials

(ii) the possibility of achieving economies through the cooperative processing of these resources.

(iii) the possibility of reaching agreement on cooperative projects was greater if the number of institutions involved were both small and homogeneous.

(iv) the UNESCO Pilot Project specified "a University library network "

(v) UNESCO aid funds were quite limited.

No attempt was therefore made during this phase to include public, school and special libraries, although it is acknowledged that a few special libraries could have qualified as "research" libraries.

It is interesting that MARLIN has never existed as a corporate body or an organizational entity. Institutional independence has always been preserved and decisions have always been made by consensus either in special meetings called by the National Library or Universiti Sains Malaysia Library or during meetings of PERPUN.[16] Prior to and during

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(15) For a detailed report of the MALMARC System see Lim Huck Tee. The Malaysian MARC (MALMARC) Project. Programme Vol.14(3): 101-120,July 1980

(16) PERPUN - Persidangan Perpustakaan Universiti dan Negara (Conference of University libraries and the National Library), which has been meeting since 1975 once every 3 or 4 months, was set up with several objectives in view, among them, "to encourage greater cooperation among national and academic libraries, particularly in the areas of acquisitions, technical processing, library research and in the use of computerized systems." (Standing Conference of National and University Libraries ... Guidelines.)

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the period of the Tell and Massil consultancy missions, the National Library played a coordinating role. Subsequently however, during the experimental and operational phase of the MALMARC (Malaysian MARC) system, the coordinating role devolved on the Library and Computer Center at Universiti Sains Malaysia. During this entire period, all the institutions involved were equipped with telex and participated fully in the various cooperative projects. From July, 1979, however when MALMARC became operational, only 3 of the original six institutions continued with the system, namely the Universiti Sains Malaysia, the Universiti Pertanian Malaysia and the National Library. Since only 3 institutions were now involved, meetings of PERPUN could no longer be used for decision making viz-a-viz MALMARC. Hence it was necessary to establish the MALMARC Consortium, with the three institutions as founder members. Thus while MARLIN as a conceptualized entity continued to exist, cooperation and continued implementation of the various cooperative projects involving some or all of the six institutions was effected through:

(i) the MALMARC Consortium

(ii) PERPUN

It must be stressed that in both the MALMARC Consortium and PERPUN, there is no legal agreement conditioning institutional participation, commitment or withdrawal. Thus while a network resource (e.g. MALMARC Data Base) was being developed, there seemed to be a reluctance to develop a network organization. There appears to be no clear solution to the problem at the present time. The possibility of setting up a company was discussed and abandoned as the Universities are precluded from doing so under the provisions of the Universities and Colleges Act. Participation of the National Library too as a Federal Department in such a commercial venture was also likely to be difficult. In the meantime the Universiti Sains Malaysia continues to function as the Coordinating Center for the MALMARC Consortium and provides a subscription service which is made available to Consortium members.

As of January, 1982, Consortium members included Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, National Library of Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and University of Malaya. Membership of the Consortium is likely to be limited to the original participants in the Pilot Project, for administrative convenience and decision making.

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Subscription services however will be made available as widely as possible. At the present time, the Nanyang Technological Institute Singapore, the National University of Singapore and the Library of Institute Pengajian Tinggi (Higher Education Institute) of the University of Malaya have expressed interest in subscribing to MALMARC records. Institutions outside the region including the Australian National University and the University of Sydney have also expressed interest. While it is the intention of the MALMARC Consortium to provide a service for the smaller libraries within the country as well, the volume of material to be processed by each of these institutions is likely to be relatively small. The requirements of the smaller institutions therefore can only be accomodated provided they are grouped together in order to generate the minimum processing volume required and to facilitate administrative and financial arrangements at the Coordinating Center. A survey is being conducted by Universiti Sains Malaysia in order to find out the number of libraries within Malaysia which are interested in taking advantage of the MALMARC system. Institutions intending to participate will have to accept standardization in cataloging and classification practices which have been adopted for the MALMARC system, although differences in classification systems can be accomodated. This may mean some changes in their own cataloging routines and procedures. At the same time, it is also necessary for institutional inputs, record keeping, financial accounting etc. to be coordinated by a single institution with the administrative and manpower capacity for the task. The National Library for example could coordinate the input of special libraries in Federal Ministries and Departments falling within the purview of the Common User Service (Sekim Gunasama Perpustakaan), for which a fee could be charged to defray expenses. This again will have to be cleared by administrative and financial authorities, if and when it is implemented.

...14/-

Network Services

At the present time there are a number of computerized data bases within the framework of MARLIN which are either created or accessed on behalf of different client groups. These data bases which are mainly bibliographic in nature [17] fall into two broad categories:

(i) Locally created data bases

(ii) External data bases

Of the locally created data bases, two are of special importance, namely the MALMARC and PERPUNET data bases, and constitute the 'core' of 'services' provided. The MALMARC data base consists of original MARC records extracted from the MARC Data Base (also maintained at Universiti Sains Malaysia and comprising LC MARC from 1975 and UK MARC from 1951), on the basis of control numbers submitted by participating institutions (e.g.LC numbers, BNB numbers, ISBN) to which are incorporated institutional data or modifications, to become MALMARC records. In the case of 'non-hits' i.e. when no prior MARC record exists, an original catalogue record is created and input into the system. The MALMARC data base therefore consists of a main file or union catalogue of the current acquisitions of participating institutions and shows location by using a three letter institutional code. In addition institutional sub-files, as desired, are maintained and various catalogue outputs in COM (Computer output microfilm) are issued quarterly with monthly updates and cumulations. Other outputs generated are monthly Accessions Lists in paper printout. Also to be produced as a byproduct of the system is the Malaysian National Bibliography, with active preparations underway. At the present time the MALMARC data base consists of over 100,000 records with an annual increase of about 60,000. As more institutions join the system, the rate of increase will be even greater. (See Appendix I for MALMARC Subscription Charges and Services and Appendix II for comparative cataloguing costs in respect of manual/MALMARC System).[18] The benefits of participation in MALMARC are manifold. Computerized cataloging is generally cheaper than manual. Processing of materials, including the production of monthly accessions lists is generally faster and cataloging

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(17) There are also local data bases for raw data (non-bibliographic) which can only be accessed by qualified users and do not form a part of network services per se.

(18) Information provided by Lim Huck Tee in discussions with Adeline Leong on 30 April 1982.

backlogs are slowly becoming a historical phenomenon in most participating institutions. Since its first involvement with MALMARC, the National Library has not found it necessary to increase personnel provision at professional or non professional level in the Catalogue Division despite the annual increase in acquisitions and the consequent processing workload. Since the COM Union Catalogue is made available (free of charge) by the National Library to all State Public Library systems, the collective resources of MARLIN input into MALMARC become known and accessible on a national scale. It must be emphasised here that all inputs into the MALMARC system are off-line, except in the case of inputs for the USM Library which uses terminals located in the library itself. Generally initial information (control number, accession number tec.) is communicated through telex, but all subsequent operations are depended on the postal services - for movement between individual institutions and USM between USM and the COM Bureau in Singapore and the subsequent distribution of COM catalogues through the National Library (the latter purely to facilitate customs clearance etc.)

The PERPUNET data base by comparison is restricted to serial records only. Unlike MALMARC which is basically dependent on original MARC records (which are paid for by the Coordinating Center and subsequently reflected in the basic subscription charges),PERPUNET is not dependent on ISDS (International Serials Data System) records. All records (about 18,000) input into the PERPUNET data base represent original cataloging with data (inclusive of institutional holdings information) submitted via input-sheets, sent to USM through the postal system. The Universiti Sains Malaysia is also the Coordinating Center for PERPUNET and the National Library and all the university libraries are involved in the project. PERPUNET has not become operational yet and subscription charges have not been determined. PERPUNET can be traced back to the Union catalogue of Serials Project proposed by Bjorn Tell in 1976 and is based on the Senarai Induk Terbitan Bersiri Malaysia (Malaysian Union List of Serials) published by the National Library in 1976. The Union List was a simple title listing showing institutional location but without holdings information. As such therefore compilation was accomplished speedily and it was subsequently used as a basis for input, together with holdings information into the PERPUNET data base. Although the published Union List included the serials collections

of over 25 libraries, the data base input operation was shared by members of PERPUN. It is not unusual therefore that the data base came to be called PERPUNET. Subsequently, in what could be termed the second phase, serials records not in the published Union List were also input. Clearly a process of continuous updating will be required. Since the ISDS master file, or for that matter the CONSER data base were not used as a base file to extract relevant records for the inputting of local information (i.e. holdings information, institutional location etc.), a serials input format had to be worked out and both the ISDS Guidelines and Serials: a MARC format were consulted. Since then however conversion programmes have been written to convert serials records input, into the MARC format.(19)

External bibliographic data bases are not accessed on-line at present as the Malaysian Telecommunications Department does not have provisions for packet switching. However, both at Universiti Sains Malaysia and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, selected data bases are being accessed in-house under an experimental project partially funded by UNESCO, using the CAN/SDI software package. The data bases include CA search (Chemical Abstracts Search), FSTA (Food Science and Technology Abstracts) and AGRIS. While access to these data bases does not constitute a part of the'services' of the network at the present time, it is intended that institutional members of MARLIN would ultimately subscribe to selected data bases related to their subject interest areas, provide access and SDI services to users/researchers in member institutions and respond to any request for access from within the country.

Future Developments

In the ultimate analysis, library networking would be meaningless if it did not result in meaningful services and improved access to information. In Malaysia, some modest moves have been made in this direction. However it must be placed on record that without the active cooperation of Universiti

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(19) For a more detailed account see Lim Chee Hong. A cooperative computerized serials project in Malaysia: PERPUNET I. Paper presented at the Joint LAS-PPM Conference, Information Infrastructures for the 80s. Singapore, 7 - 9 December, 1978.

Sains Malaysia, the support and commitment of highly capable professional and technical personnel at the library and the Computer Centre, and the willingness of the University authorities not only in making available the resources of the Computer Center (see Appendix III) but also in drastically reducing charges, little would have been really achieved. The positive involvement and commitment of all the institutions during the experimental phases and subsequently of Universiti Pertanian Malaysia and the National Library during the operational phase of MALMARC provided the continuing encouragement and support so vital for a cooperative project of this nature. The entry of two of the older and larger Universities - Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and the University of Malaya in January, 1982 into the system has strengthened the MALMARC base and angurs well for the further development of library networking in Malaysia. There have of course been many problems - technical, manpower and human. While the technical problems at the Computer Centre have largely been overcome, the manpower problem continues to be a bug bear. One solution is for Universiti Sains Malaysia to creat establishment posts within the Library/Computer Centre to service the MALMARC/PERPUNET System/Network, and for establishment costs to be recovered through subscription charges or sale of records/data base. In order to obviate part of these costs and also assist in the transfer of technology, staff from founding member institutions could be emplaced at the Library/Computer Center at Universiti Sains Malaysia for one or two years. This possibility is being actively explored by the National Library at the present time. There have also been other problems, arising partly from institutional and personal rivalries and from a concern over the leading role played by Universiti Sains Malaysia in library automation. Although much could be said on the subject, all things considered, a spirit of cooperation and accomodation has prevailed. There seems to be a need now to formalize present arrangements for resource sharing through networking in order to bring about further advances.

Future developments in library networking are greatly dependent on the implementation of telecommunication projects and programmes under the Fourth Malaysia Plan. While PDN is expected to be implemented in 1983, its installation will necessarily take some time. In the meantime however the Telecommunications Department will be introducing the 'DATEL' (Data Transmission on the Switched Telephone Network) service which provides a dial-

up facility for data transmission at speeds of 600, 1200 and 2400 b.p.s. This will make possible a distributed terminal population hooked up to or capable of accessing computer installations irrespective of their location. Costly voice-grade leased circuits on a point to point basis (i.e. between each distributed terminal and a remote main-frame computer) for data transmission will no longer be necessary [20]. Dial-up facilities will merely require payment (as with the telephone system) for line usage for the actual time taken for data transmission. This will mean that input and updating of records in the data base can be undertaken on line. At the same time public sector agencies (not necessarily subscribing members) with the necessary computer hardware/software facilities, could, if given the necessary password be able to access the data base as required. So long as such users can access the data base without being able to alter records, no real data security problem is envisaged. On this basis, the widest possible access should be facilitated. However if record processing is involved, such as for the MALMARC and PERPUNET data bases, appropriate charges will have to be levied. Similarly, charges may have to be levied for access to external data bases maintained locally unless appropriate trade-offs could be arranged between institutions for mutual access to external data bases maintained in each institution. However non-bibliographic (raw data) data bases created locally must be provided with proper security controls to prevent unauthorised access, both local and foreign. Packet switching, the gradual change of the communications network from an analogue to a digital base, to be introduced with the PDN will give efficient access to large international data base vendors such as Lockheed, and coversely will offer a means of access to our own data bases by individuals or institutions abroad. The question of trans border data flow therefore is likely to come into increasing focus in the future. The International Bureau of Informatics is currently concerned with this problem and countries venturing into this area must become alive to the realities. At the National level, a greater coordination and pooling of resources and especially of expertise will be necessary. Although preliminary discussions [21] have already been held and will be continued,

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(20) For the MALMARC System, on-line access for founder members would mean 5 leased circuits, each costing about M$36,000 p.a.

(21) Discussions between Dr.D.E.K.Wijasuriya and the Director, Networks Division, Telecommunications Department on the PDN, packet switching, the introduction of DATEL and library needs for data communication.

...19/-

it is most important that the Jawatankuasa Prosesan Data Otomatik (JPDO) (Committee for Automatic Data Processing) in the Prime Minister's Department is made fully aware of the data processing needs of libraries and the ongoing cooperative efforts at the present time. The libraries have very wisely used 'centers of excellence' where computer hardware and technical expertise is already well concentrated and have thereby avoided the heavy investment in automation if each library decided to 'go it alone'. The results so far have been more than encouraging. But in order to move even further, there should be parallel efforts to upgrade computer literacy and develop the technical manpower capability while upgrading at the same time the telecommunications infrastructure of the country.

MALMARC SYSTEM
Subscription Charges and Services

Subscription charges are levied on the basis of operating expenditure for personnel (professional staff, keypunch operator, clerical), computer time and materials (paper, tape), MARC subscription, COM production and postage. Programming costs have not been taken into consideration, neither have other overheads (electricity, premises, air-conditioning) or capital costs (computer hardware).

1. Charges for Founding members

(i)	Basic subscription for 8,000 unique records	$22,000/- per annum
(ii)	Each additional record above 8,000 unique records	$2.75 per record
(iii)	Each additional duplicate record	$0.65 per record
(iv)	External selected records	$2.25 per record

1.1 Charges for additional output

e.g. Bibliographies, catalogues, accession lists, etc.

(i)	Processing cost of records	$100/- per 1,000 frames
(ii)	Cost of original COM fiche	$1.20 per fiche
(iii)	Cost of duplicate COM fiche	$1.10 per fiche
(iv)	Original computer printed page	$0.80 per page
(v)	Duplicate computer printed page	$0.30 per page

2. Charges for Subscribing members

(i)	Basic subscription for 3,000 unique records	$9,750/- per annum
	OR	
	7,000 unique records	$22,050/- per annum
(ii)	Each additional record above 3,000 or 7,000 unique records	$3.25 per record
(iii)	Each additional duplicate record above 3,000 or 7,000 unique records	$0.80 per record
(iv)	External selected records	$2.85 per record

...2/-

2.1 Charges for additional output

e.g. Bibliographies, catalogues, accession lists, etc.

(i)	Processing cost of records	$1.20/- per 1,000 frames
(ii)	Cost of original COM fiche	$1.45 per fiche
(iii)	Cost of duplicate COM fiche	$1.35 per fiche
(iv)	Original computer printed page	$1.00 per page
(v)	Duplicate computer printed page	$0.40 per page

3. Services

(i) Maintenance of the main institutional files in the computer.

(ii) 4 copies of the quarterly cumulated COM catalogues for current records, excluding annual cumulation of preceding years.

(iii) 4 sets of monthly computer printed catalogues to supplement the COM catalogues.

(iv) 1 camera ready copy of the monthly Accession List.

(v) 1 copy of the bimonthly Local Control No. Catalogue.

(vi) 1 copy of the monthly Accesion File.

COMPARATIVE COSTS OF CATALOGUING (MANUAL AND MALMARC SYSTEMS)

Institution	Manual system (per title)			MALMARC system (per title)		
	Based on NUC entries	Original Cataloguing	Added Copies	Based on Selected Records	Original MARC Input	Added Copies
	M$ (£)	M$ (£)	M$ (£)	M$ (£)	M$ (£)	M$ (£)
National Library	5.63 (£1.126)	6.42 (£1.284)	0.96 (£0.192)	4.43 (£0.886)	6.94 (£1.388)	0.50 (£0.10)
Universiti Kebangsaan	7.85 (£1.57)	8.72 (£1.744)	0.34 (£0.068)	6.39 (£1.278)	n.a.	0.50 (£0.10)
Universiti Malaya	7.23 (£1.446)	7.94 (£1.588)	0.24 (£0.048)	4.43 [(c)] (£0.886)	5.05 [(c)] (£1.01)	0.50 (£0.10)
Universiti Pertanian	8.56 (£1.712)	9.10 (£1.82)	0.63 (£0.126)	6.39 (£1.278)	7.95 (£1.59)	0.50 (£0.10)
Universiti Sains	n.a.	7.18 [(a)] (£1.436)	0.53 [(a)] (£0.106)	5.37 (£1.074)	6.91 (£1.382)	0.50 (£0.10)
Universiti Teknologi	n.a.	11.26 [(b)] (£2.252)	n.a.	7.95 (£1.59)	10.32 (£2.064)	0.50 (£0.10)

Notes:

(a) Based on 1975 study
(b) As reported in Massil's feasibility study, 1977
(c) Excludes cost of checking by Chief Cataloguer, which adds about M$1.00 to the total cost in most libraries.

n.a. = not available

APPENDIX III

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA COMPUTER CENTER

EXISTING CENTRALISED COMPUTING FACILITIES:

(A) IBM S/370 Model 148 with 2 MBYTE CPU and the following peripherals:

- 8 spindles of 3350 disk drives (2,560 MBYTE storage)
- 4 spindles of 3340 disk drives (280 MBYTE storage)
- 1 unit of 3803 tape controlles and 4 units of 3420 tape drives with recording densities of 1600 and 6250 BPI.
- 1 unit of 3203 lineprinter (1200 lines per minutes)
- 1 unit 2525 card punch (300 CPM)
- 1 unit 3505 card reader (1200 CPM)
- 1 unit of 3272 terminal controlles attached to which are fourteen 3277 terminals and one 3284 matrix printer
- 1 unit of 3274 terminal controlle attached to which are twelve terminals
- 1 unit of display type operater console

(B) IBM 4331 with 1 MBYTE of main storage and various peripherals (used occasionally by library).

Most of the library's computerisation activities are carried out in (A). Allocated fully to library are five 3277 terminals, and 350 MBYTE secondary storage. Library has access to all other facilities on a first come first served basis. The creation and maintenance of the MALMARC and PERPUNET Data Bases only constitutes a part of the Library's computerization activities.

(Source: Telex dated 15th June, 1982 from Lim Huck Tee)

CÂMARA DOS DEPUTADOS

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS
FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS DE BIBLIOTHÉCAIRES

48th GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONTREAL
AUGUST, 22 - 28, 1982

INFORMATION IN BRAZIL – DIAGNOSIS

ARISTEU GONÇALVES DE MELO, House of Representatives, Documentation and Information Center's Director.

BRASÍLIA – BRAZIL
1982

CÂMARA DOS DEPUTADOS

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INFORMATION IN BRAZIL - A DIAGNOSIS

ABSTRACT

By Melo, Aristeu G., Director of the Documentation and Information Center, the House of Representatives - BRAZIL

Current philosophy of information as instrument of development. Orientation arisen from the UNISIST and NATIS: programs with special attention to the ideas of advantages of cooperation among systems, coordination and standardization, and with the integrated planning of substructures of documentation services, libraries and archives.

Analysis of the Brazilian context relating to the information policy. Bodies; guiding lines; technical, material and humam resources available. The information in the House of Representatives.

As a diagnosis, difficulties with which the directors of agencies responsible of information in Brazil are identified. That is due to the lack of global planning that could assure equal distribution of resources to the different subactivities in the information field decisions related to the ideas proclaimed by UNESCO and methodological definitions.

Meeting
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ARISTEU GONÇALVES DE MELO
Diretor
Centro de Documentação e Informação

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INFORMATION IN BRAZIL - DIAGNOSIS

INTRODUCTION:

In the middle of 1980, I was appointed as Director of the Documentation and Information Center (CEDI) of the House of Representatives, in my country. I was, indeed, proud of such a gratifying opportunity that was given to me. The Documentation and Information Center, which exists since 1971, assembles, in a single framework, so many important activities, that in order to analyze it and to make it grow, seemed to me a challenge and the most important task to be carried out during my administration.

Aware of the reality of the theoretical basis, which oriented the creation of CEDI, and feeling the importance of the harmonic behavior of its subdivisions, and the importance of the integration of its parts to the success of the whole, I verified that my role would go beyond the simple task of internal administration and continuation of the plans started, that were practically interrupeted, still in the phase of its structural organization. To establish, to implement, and to control the Center would demand much more: would demand the conquest of a favorable mentality to the information value among the components of our bureaucratic organization, as the only way to obtain the necessary means to drive the mechanism under my direction. It would demand dynamism in a large universe, considering the various difficulties such as, the issue regarding to the labor market, from where we would

have to recruit specialized personnel in spite of the weak potentialities of such market; difficulties related to the computer system, in a time when we do not even have a definition of the directions to take towards its systematization; difficulties concerning to the methodological and technical definitions, and assimilation of the modern phylosophies, not only by the professionals of the Center, and other managers around us, but also by our superiors, who should approve and answer our claims, to obtain the necessary conditions to better orientate our projects, and to try to diagnose, within the national context, which guidances would be the most effective to improve the sectors we consider poor, in order to have a consonant performance of the entity I have taken the lead.

Our notes, I have brought to light at this international meeting, have the objective to show you the stage of the information in Brazil - a developing country - and also to show you what are the most crucial hindrances we face.

We think that many problems of ours are common to most institutions of yours, and that all of us, responsible for the leadership of the information sector and interested in the efficiency of such services, believe that together we can work towards the solution of such problems, and we are convinced that from this meeting, specially organized to discuss the modernization of the information networks, many and good ideas will flow, searching out technical solutions and new tatics to the benefit of the information all over the world.

1. THE PRESENT PHILOSOPHY

The information exchange, as the only way to the dissemination of knowledge, has been, for years, object of preocupation of technicians and scientists who have seen in a systemic organization, the only way to control it (1), avoiding hindrances to their dissemination.

In 1967, when the ICSU (Internation Council for the Scientific Union) and the UNESCO (United Nations for Education, Science and Cultural Organization) got together to study the possibility to establish a world system for scientific information, iniciative that gave birth to UNISIST (United Nations International System for Information of Science and Technology), they have already spent twenty years of working and study of the scientists necessities, in the field of information and in the conception of complex systems to process it. At that time, the organisms concerning with information had already the preocupation that the development of electronic systems, without control, could hamper the exchange of information among the systems. On the other hand, the great number of information units that would be created, and the high costs they would represent leaded the administrators and technicians to a growing tendency to cooperate, as a measure of economy, by sharing the costs and work.

The UNISIST, in its initial phylosophy of accelerating the scientific, technological, economic and social development in every region of the world, presented itself as a program

devoted to the solutions of problems raised in the area of information.

At the same time, the general plan based on the principle of compatibility and standardization of the national systems of information, whose philosophy consolidated the NATIS (National Information Systens), has been ratified through the years.

The preoccupation of UNESCO with the integral and coordinated development of the infrastructure of the services of Documentation, Libraries and Archives, in the member countries, became evidente since the creation of the Documents, Libraries and Archives Department, in 1966, by the Director General of UNESCO, with the objective to integrate the sectorial programs of information. Afterwards the Department was transformed in the Division of the General Program for Information, related to the Vice-Director General for the Studies and Programs, as a result of the merging of two programs, NATIS and UNISIST, in a single one, under the same initials, UNISIST, which would be under the control of a only one Board of 30 members. (2)

The recent Documents and Archives Management Program (RAMP), of UNESCO, a section of PGI, that incites people to perceive the value and usefulness of the records and archives as sources of basic informations, especially regarding to the planning development, put the archives as priority in the general program of information. (3)

2. PLANNING

In Brazil, the rousing of the national consciousness to the necessity to give the information activities adequate conditions for a technical and faster progress is evident, by the recognition of its usefulness as an important element of development

However, what is verified is that, in spite of the government policies about information to reflect an orientation towards the harmonic development of its activities, the basic sectors - library, archives and computer - are treated independently receiving different supplies of human resources and materials. Some sectors are benefited in prejudice of others; the information processing - which demands integrated planning - works, practically, separated, while the professionals isolate themselves and follow their own methodology.

2.1 - Integration and Implementation

The integration of the flow of information treatment, whose operations are known as being interdependent, is extremely difficult within our context, because the general preoccupation is turned to the processing by machines, the final phase of the information processing. The policy adopted for information, here treated in parts - in spite of the philosophy which states the linkage of these parts - and what is clear in the I and II Basic Plans for the Scientific and Technological Development results in an irregularity regarding to the Information Science Activities. This

irregularity leads to put aside plans for an integrated development of a necessary substructure, and without support of political, financial, methodological and legal basis, neither plans to increment the sector will have conditions to go through. Besides, all the organisms concerned with the information activity must extend their preocupation to other elements as holdings, personnel, physical spaces and equipments in order to implement those Plans.

An effective policy, which could lead to a program aimed to a global treatment of the information, has been postponed, in spite of professionals and managers have been more aware of the need of the specialized people of different areas, related to information, to aproximate; also the necessity of an integrated planning for the aimed to the two basic holdings: bibliography and archives, and a consequent systematization of the activities under a central control. Some papers presented in former congresses, by national specialists, pointed out this way as the solution to obtain an effective control of the information, which today is recognized as involving professionals of different areas, as librarians, archivists, analysts of systems, computer and microfilm technicians, and specialized personnel dedicated to the repair of documents.

2.2 - Structures

The first drive with a view to the systematization of the informations at the governmental level, in Brazil, was in 1971, through the First National Plan for the Economic and Social

Development, which foresees the implantation of the National System for Scientific and Technological Information (SNICT), recognized as an indispensable measure to the acceleration of the economic development of the nation. Concerning to its proposals the mechanism was similar to what the UNISIST, designed by UNESCO, had foreseen. Its objectives were "to plan and coordinate, in national level, the activities related to scientific an technological informations, in order to establish a national network for cooperation and exchange to assure the integral utilization of the knowledge acquired in the country and abroad. (4) However, that purpose was not materialized, despite the first PBCT - Basic Plan for Scientific and Technological Development, of 1973-74, had confirmmed it, and a working group, formed by officials of various departments, has made the necessary studies that originated the structure of the Plan.

In 1975, a movement to implant the idea of NATIS emerged in Brazil. Several organisms and institutions joined to the movement: the National Library, the Brazilian Institute of Bibliography and Documentation (IBBD), under the control of National Council for Research, responsible, during a certain time, for the expressive impulse of development in this area, the National Institute of the Book (INL), the House of Representatives Library, the National Union of Book Publishers (SNEL) and others.

In march, 1976, the IBBD became IBICT (National Institute for Scientific and Technological Development), as a natural evolution of that institution, with the objective of giving information on Science and Technology and, through them, speed up the National

System for the Scientific and Technological Development (SNDCT) (5).

The second PBCT, in 1976, reinforced the idea of the creation of an "Information System", extensive, complete, able to offer the necessary basis to decision-making, planning, coordination atendance, evaluation and correction of deviations.

The above mentioned initiatives, regardless of being labelled as solutions to the problems in the field of information, reached more specifically the computer sector and published documents.

As a result of the effort of professionals of the area, the National System of Archives (SINAR) was created, through the Decree 82.308/78, and has the National Archives, as its center, under the control of the Department of Justice.

2.3 - Coordination and Standardization

The lack of an official definition concerning to the (6) methodology, that would lead to the standardization of the systems, the inexistence of a normative organism to undertake the responsability of accurate decisions to disseminate the ideas UNESCO has delineated, leave the managers, in charge of documentation institutions, a certain insecurity in making decisions concerning to the projects of this area. It is also observed the necessity of a reinforcement in technical leadership to act more vigorously for the benefit of Cooperative programs and networks, measures that have already been recognized by the responsibles for the sector, as the solution for the domentation problems, in general.

There are few initiatives in the country towards an adaptation of the present methods to the modern systems, to make

the former consistent with the international systems.

The wanted standardization of the methods applied to the libraries and archives, both national and regional, is far from being reached.(7)

We can even observe, within the Brazilian scope, in general, a strong resistence of the professionals to change the rules, also certain insistence in continuing to work only within the limits of their closed systems, is observed too, attending,exclusively, the needs of the institution they belong to. Any alteration in the working method aiming to new attitudes, to an open system, where and ample exchange of efforts could be possible, has as answer a series of objections and excuses. On the other hand, the proliferatio of specific and private systems, resulting from scattered iniciatives make the perspectives for the creation of an integrated information system, as foreseen by UNISIST, farther and farther.

The National Library decided to utilize the services of CALCO (a section that takes care of the catalog processing through computer), to make the National Bibliography, this system is consistent with the MARC (Machine Readable Catalog). The orientation of the IBICT is also to utilize the same format. However, other institutions continue operating based on their own processing systems, in general, simplified, and the barriers against an uniform methodology, consistent with the national an international norms, are many.

Among the systems which have developed and work as independent networks, with its own data base and methodology,

we can to point out the BIBR, of the PRODASEN (Data Processing and Informatics Center of the Federal Senate), which functions as a colective catalog and gathers informations about the holdings of the Federal Senate Library and of other libraries as the AGRIS, from BINAGRI (National Library of Agriculture); the INIS, from the CIN (Nuclear Information Center) and a dozen more.

The automatic processing of the information, that exists in the bibliographic and archive holdings, format problems and other aspects that demand the integration of computer specialists with the archivists, responsible for the technical processing of the above mentioned documents, still need, in general, a coordination.

It is noticed that the national institutions, at first CAPRE, and recently SEI (Special Secretariat for Informatics), responsible, successively, for the National Policy on Informatics, have acted closer to the industrial control, not having an involvement in the standardization and in the methodology utilized by the libraries and archives, which should orientate the processing of documents - basis of the information - to feed the systems. If the word "Information" used by the legislators were interpreted in a wider manner, according to some specialists (8), that is, as an activity that includes gathering, processing through analysis, storage, restoration and dissemination of the scientific information, SEI could narrow this very big gap that exists in the information sector in Brazil.

2.4 - Resources

In my assumptions into the Brazilian context regarding to resources, I will put aside elements such as finance, holdings, equipment and buildings, not because we consider them less important in the analysis of the present problems, but for they do not reflect, in a preponderant way, our internal activities.

The lack of an explicit policy, which could lead to an integral planning of the substructure of the services in the area of Information, and the lack of an effective coordination, are reflected in the enormous desproportion between the work volume in the various sectors of the service, and in the human resources responsible for its performance.

In the area of librarianship one can observe, for instance, the National Library, with a great number of works received as legal deposits to be processed for the diffusion of the Nation Bibliography, counting with reduced number of technicians among its staff. In the sector of rare books many precious works, most of them in advanced state of deterioration, expect treatment.

In the archives sector, the disproportion is still bigger. Large volume of documents accumulated in their original organisms wait to be collected. Only in Rio de Janeiro, it was calculated 200 km (around 125 miles) of paper, from the federal area, against 18 km, already under the control of the National Archives. From those 18 km (about 2 billion documents), only 50% have beem processed, therefore, 9 km of documents are wainting

personnel to do the job. (9)

A positive aspect, in the area of library science, is the existence of librarian positions among the staff, classified by the national plan for classification of civil employees. Concerning to the archives areas, that plan does not insert the function of the archives expert. Four years ago the profession of the archivist was recognized officially in the country, through the Law 6546/78, and was regulated through the Decree 82.590/78, enclosing two levels of the same function: the Archivist, graduates from colleges, either in Brazil or abroad; and the Archives Technician, graduates from high school. And also, those officials with four years working in the post of Archivist or Archives Technician, even without the graduations required, were guaranteed in their posts.

To supply the area of Librarianship, the country counts with 30 undergraduate courses and a dozen of graduate courses, while the archive area, that counts only with 3 undergraduate courses are running with a very few number of students annualy (the Federal School of Rio de Janeiro, graduated only 5 students, this year).

A bill regulating the profession of specialized people in the area of Data Processing has been submitted to the Congress. Yet, since 1973, there are short term courses training people for this area.

We have, since 1976, 16 courses for "technologs",

in the area of Data Processing. These courses offer 970 vacancies and accept graduates from high school. With 1.800 hours duration, the course can be attended in full time during 2 years, or part time in four years. (10)

We can visualize as a solution for the lack of personnel in the archives area, taking advantage of the high number of professionals graduate in Library Science that represents a considerable labor force scattered through all over the country.(11)

Having received a specific formation to deal with libraries, these professionals acquire knowledge which enables them to treat the Information in a general way, though, since the theory of Information and all the subjects concerning to the tecnhical processing of the bibliographic documents are under their control.

The complement of the curriculum of those professionals with subjects related to the archives techniques, microfilm, repair of documents, and data processing, would result in the formation of a work force of excellent level, in a short range, possibly in 2 years or less, full time, speeding up the solution of that disproportion.

We have insisted with the University of Brasilia to help to solve the problem concerning to the formation and training of new archivists. However, we believe that only a general market survey, based on the study of actual necessities of the information sector could show how to share scarce financial resources consigned to personnel of the information sector. Moreover, the creation of new vacancies in the Public Service to fill posts without specialized people, mainly in the area of information, is essential.

3. THE INFORMATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

In November 1971, with the Resolution number 20, the House of Representatives reorganized its administrative services. All activities related to information, as an international tendency of those days, were put together forming the Documentation and Information Center - CEDI with the following subdivisions:

- Archives Division
- Library Division
- Legislative Studies Division
- Publications Division
- Auxiliary Technical Services
- Informatics Section (data processing)
- Administrative Services

3.1. ARCHIVES DIVISION

The Archives Division created as an specific and internal system, were planned to deal with three phases of a document life, did not have, until now, the opportunity to be organized in full. The idea of archives, as a static section or department (a simple warehouse of sheets of paper), has predominated, inside or outside the House of Representatives, and it has been a difficulty in the acceptance of the new notion about archives, i.e, the conception of archives as instruments of planning and development.

Nevertheless we have advanced a little, since we have developed some methodologies in documents' evaluation, in classification, analytic inventory of third age documents, control of files of intermediate phase, already collected, and other technical acquisitions.

The technical personel's contribution for the development of a national archival technique should be remembered here.

We could mention the role of Evaluation and Retention

Section - SAR, which was created in the basis of the most modern conception of the Archives Science, has, because of its specific attributions, the function of manage and follow the production of documents with the intention of having a good quality of archives in the future. SAR is like a link between the running phase and the organization of archives.

The management of CEDI is studying the creation of a policy of Archives more aggressive with the definition and the use of the principles and patterns that could help the effective work of the Archives Sections. Among the priorities we underline the solution of problems of technical personnel and the criation of a mentality that recognizes the values of the archives nowadays.

3.2. LIBRARY DIVISION

The House of Representatives' Library, known as one of the best of country, is trying to keep this image, nevertheless a lot of difficulties we face, such as few trained people, and lack of other materials and technical resources.

Among the necessary steps to be taken, which are requesting more alternative, we can mention the following:

a - The improvement of the means of controlling the stock of documents with the objective to accelerate the recuperation of information; avoiding the unnecessary broadening of the collections and so diminishing the difficulties of physical spaces, having more selective documents and avoinding the disappearence of books.

b - The urgent establishment of explict criteria of selection as a form of better direct the inprovement of the holdings making it more efficient for the patron.

c - The study of the documents with the help of specialists and scholars with the objective of keeping what is good, geeting rid of what is superfluous and useless, and receiving suggestions for new acquisions.

d - A Permanet revision of the allocation of the physical space for a better utilization of the stacks and the comfort of the employees.

e - The urgent restoration of damaged material and the cleanness disinfection and maintenance of the stacks.

Considering these objectives, we have the following programs:

a - Controlling, actualization, and physical reorganization of the bibliographic material, which has the following projects:

- Evaluation and actualization of periodicals: Serial, newspapers and reports. This project is in progress now.
- Actualization of the Brazilian Government publications. This Project is in progress too.
- Controlling and actualization of the general bibliographic records: books and pamphlets. This Project is in phase of preparation.
- Survey and controlling of the collection of rare books.
- Study of the situation and controlling of the Internationl Organization Publications.

b - Changes on the atmosphere conditions of work and distribution of spaces. It is phase of study and survey.

Concerning the projects of the Program 1, we wrote down norms to help the development of two basic activities: selection and discard. Those norms gave us conditions to make policies and assign attributions. Technical norms which could guide the selection for purchasing, evaluation of accumulated documents, and selection of donated documents were created too. With these documents, we could begin a experimental methodology.

Besides these programs in progress, we are engaged in new studies about the patron's profile and use of the selective dissemination of information.

3.2.1. COOPERATION NETWORK

It is our philosophy of work to stimulate the cooperation services and the integration of the networks as a way of increasing the possibilities to offer a better service to the clients. So we are centralizing the data of the card and the book catalogs in a data base - Library, Book and Pamphlets,-BIBR, that is a subsystem of the Information System of the Congress, made up by the Computer Center of the Federal Senate -PRODASEN. At the same time, we began the project 2. Actualization of the Brazilian Government Publications, or official Publications as we call them in Brazil.

Our experiences with networking cooperation gave us enjoyable results described below.

To supply the necessities of the Institution, the Library Divisions, through its Receiving and Control of National Publications Section - SRCPN began the job that originated the first volume of the Brazilian Government Publication Bibliography, on the Federal Government level, and related to 1975-77 period.

The Brazilian reality, with relation to this type of material, was without control, and, still today, only few departments area able to give accurate information about their own bibliographic production.

A committee, with some members from the the House of Representatives Center of Documentation, the Brazilian Government Publication Commission, is trying, since 1975, to correct failures concerned to production control and standardization.

This committee is, as well, trying to convince the managers for the necessity to build a policy concerning governmental publications.

The bibliography above mentioned was a cooperative

work and a result of the efforts of this committee. Librarians from libraries and centers of documentation of each Department of the Executive Power, Senate and Judiciary have cataloged their own publications.

The SRCPN of the House of Representatives received the cataloging cards, and revised them according to the AACR chapter 6 and ISBD, aiming a Universal Bibliografic Control - UBC. The Documentation and Information Center believing in the benefits that this bibliography could provide, is trying to give continuation to it in order to carry it through fast and in a smooth way.

The first volume was made by hand, and the most recent data are already four years old, when it was first published.

One of the crucial problems to the execution of this project is the format. The first volume was elaborated according to the ISBD rules. The second volume, nevertheless the use of a computer, will have a different and simplified format.

We have some obstacles to continue to use ISBD or AACR - 2, and so a simplified format, will speed up the production of the second volume.

3.3. LEGISLATIVE STUDIES DIVISION.

This Division was organized based on the Congressional Research Service. It does not only indicate the sources of works, but also prepares in advance, reports, surveys on national and international issues for the Representatives. It still makes researches on demand. It continues the tasks of a Legislative Advisory Section that completes the librarians works.

This Section does not belong, any more, to the Center and was incorporated by another advisory section, The Technical Advisory Section with more attributions such as to help the

Representatives in the elaboration or speeches, bills and other documents. At present, this sector, which now is called Legislative Advisory, is functioning in department level. Without this section, indispensable to the basic research for the elaboration of the above mentioned works, it was formed a gap among the Advisors and the sources of information, what made the work extremely difficult.

Today, the Legislative Studies Division has the function, through its Sections, of controlling bills and statutes and other Legislative acts. It is also responsible for researchs and give information about bills and statutes, as well as researches about the Representations' performance.

It was observed, at this time, an evolution in the area of this Division, through the utilization of the computer facilities from PRODASEN (Informatics and Data Processing Center of the Federal Senate).

3.4. PUBLICATIONS DIVISION.

The Publications Division is responsible for the elaboration of the Printing Program of the House of Representatives, for the preparation of the publication, from the phase of the analysis of the originals to the print; for the amount of pulling, and for the distribution of publications by the House.

Since its creation, as a consequent development of a simple Library Section (it was the Bulletin Section), plus the addition of the Documentation and Publicity Coordination, this Division, at the beggining, having a limited priting, restricted to the internal subjects of the Institution, grew and developed, and today, it does a diversified work that is enclosed by the Priting Program, which is based on the following objectives: a) formal records and diffusion of the House Activities, b) publicity of House of Representatives image, c) contribution to the historical research and analysis and to the development of the political thought, d) help the researchers as an effective source

to immediate information, e) source of documentation and information, news and update matters.

The most important projects in progress by the Priting Program are those concerned with the support activities to the research and to the intelectual work in the country, and also those concerned with the Legislative Power's activities since its origin.

Those projects have the objective to stimulate an analytical process of the Legislative role, based on the research of old documents. To stimulate the research and the analysis of the Congress history, the House organizes contests and award prizes to the winners of the better intelectual works.

It is observed an expressive grow of that unity through the number of activities executed, and through the amount of work done.

3.5. AUXILIARY TECHNICAL SERVICES

The sector of Auxiliary Technical Services, where the reprodution and restoration of documents are the most important activities, was not developed according to what was designed at the time.

The microfilm laboratory mounted in 1965, with two copy machines, a processing machine and a reading machine, with only one clerk, with general knowledge about his activities, still today is in an embryonic state.

The documentation restoration laboratory, forecasted by the Resolution 20/71, has not been installed yet, due to need of certain conditions.

Now, our effort is concentrated in the implementation

of those services, to attend the present necessities.

3.6. INFORMATICS SECTION (Data Processing)

Informatics is one of the most important activities of CEDI, which has the task to develop the section, and was projected to attend the necessities of the whole House, was not adequately implemend yet, due to lack of high level technicians, besides machines and equipments.

The necessity to implant the computer facilities, in order to attend the increasing demand of its services, has caused serious hindrances to the development of the most important activities within the CEDI scope. For the Institution, the losts caused by this problem are even bigger, not only by the resources it failed to hold, but also for the time lost, with consequent loss of the methodologies and techniques that could have been acquired.

That reality, per se , makes evident the state of the Informatics int he House.

In terms of integrated planning, we still are in the organizational phase. The hindrances that balked the adequate implantations of the new projected sections, provoking their idleness, were interpreted as structural inadequacy. Therefore, the wanted detachment of the Informatics Section to other sector of the Administration of the House, can come to effect.

3.7. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

This sector was projected to do the auxiliary activities of management, which are systemically organized in the House.

4. CONCLUSION

In reporting my experiences as the manager of an

institution responsible for the activities concerned to Documentation and Information, in a Legislative House, I had in mind to make an analysis beyond those concerned to methodologies and techniques peculiar to the area. Showing the injunctions, consequences of a stage characteristic of a developing country, we tried to bring to the speculation of the presents, all barries met, in a context where, to the difficulties originated by a tecnique in expansion, are added the imbalance caused by a wrong consciousness of the values of the Information Sector, besides the impossibility to implement, to controll and to adequate the substructure concerned to it.

Policy, legislation, resources, and other imponderable elements which the manager of information has to deal with, as well as the problems he has to search solutions for, are approached in this paper.

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SAB
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48th IFLA General Conference
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LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS ON THE MOVE
SOME IDEAS FROM THE SWEDISH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (SAB)

Margareta Törngren
Librarian

My task today is to give proposals for future work, activities and considerations for the Round Table over the next four years fetching ideas from the Swedish Library Association (SAB).

Time is short. When we consider the task there are so many subjects of interest concerning organization, management, funding, goals and strength of the Swedish Library Association (SAB).

Furthermore the subject seems to be, not only very important, but fundamental to IFLA, which contains 167 Library Associations. That is why I want to emphasize that SAB highly approves the establishment of a Round Table for Library Associations - a forum for exchange of experiences between countries which already have Library Associations - a channel of ideas for countries which are about to start or to reorganize their Library Associations. Some years ago we renewed the discussion within SAB of the goals and tasks of our Library Association. At that time we would have wellcomed the possibility of receiving material from this Round Table.

You could of course raise the question of where this Round Table should be placed within the IFLA-structure. Is it suitable to place it under the Division of Management and Technology? A Round Table with so many important tasks really ought to be independent and should report directly to the Professional Board. The main reason for this is the fact that this Round Table more or less is connected to all the different units within IFLA. But until this matter has been sufficiently discussed SAB feels that it is more important to establish this Round Table now than postpone the establishment with a discussion of its placement within the organization. The future work will show if this decision was wise enough. There is also the idea that a placement directly under the PB might mean an IFLA within IFLA. SAB has difficulties to understand this viewpoint as the responsibilities of the RT can be clearly defined.

Meeting
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Before suggesting subjects of general interest and tasks for the Round Table I will give a short description of the library climate in Sweden right now. You could define it as very tense. There are many reasons for this. In September we will have general elections and the result of the elections is very unclear. According to the official polls the race is even between the non-socialist block and the socialist block. Today Sweden has a non-socialist minority-government.

The library climate is of course affected by the financial difficulties and general increasing unemployment. The libraries have suffered cuts in grants for books, staff and premises, There have been branchclosing and general diminishing of library services.

There is, however, one positive factor in all this concerning Public Libraries: the general public has reacted strongly against closing branches. Never before have so many people in Stockholm, the Capital of Sweden (650.000 inhabitants), defended their libraries and protested against the cuts with so much vigour. They have formed library-friends associations to support their libraries. The Swedish Writers´ Union and The Swedish Writers´ employment exchange have joined the trade unions and the Swedish Libraries and started a campaign called SAVE THE BOOK - SAVE THE LIBRARIES. This started in Stockholm but the campaign spread all over the country and local groups have been formed in other communities.

The Library climate is also interesting as the Swedish Government has appointed a parliamentary Committee to describe and analyse the role of Public Libraries in Sweden. Still its possibilities are rather limited because it cannot suggest anything that costs money. And what happens if there will be a change of government?

In a Library climate that I have described you could very well ask:

What importance has the Library Association?

How strong is it?

And what impact does it have if the Library Association expresses its opinion on different questions?

SAB has made an official statement concerning fees on loans of books. SAB has opposed against all forms of fees on loans of books. This statement has been of great importance in many communities in Sweden.

On the other hand we must admit that SAB, because of its financial situation, is not capable any more of carrying out certain projects on its own, although important for further Library development in Sweden. On many Library fields the Government for example by creating new State Authorities

has taken over the financing of many projects. They are, however, often carried out in the name of the Library Association in cooperation with State Authority.

A strong Library Association is very much dependent on how it is organized. But of course you would never receive an answer on the question: WHICH IS THE BEST WAY TO ORGANIZE A LIBRARY ASSOCIATION? Too many factors are involved. It is not at all sure that the way SAB, founded in 1915, is organized in the best way. It is through the organization that the Library People in Sweden at the moment have chosen. It is very hard too to alter an organisation that has grown up through the years. There have been some attempts to change the organization of today but they have all failed.

SAB consists of about 650 institutional members and 1.500 individual members. Within SAB you can find all types of Libraries. And political elected representatives from different communities in Sweden are represented together with librarians in one Section, the Section of individual members, which is open to all kinds of staff of the Libraries as well as to cultural workers in Society such as authors, journalists, book sellers etc. SAB also acts as an organizor of short courses and conferences - sometimes in cooperation with the Library School. The annual Meetings of SAB gather more than 700 participants - an ordinary course/conference has 50-125 participants.

SAB is financed by membership fees and the institutional members pay the largest part. The Government does not subsidize SAB but is supporting the publication of the Library Journal "Biblioteksbladet". SAB owns 5/6 of Bibliotekstjänst AB (the Swedish Libraries´ Central Service Organization), which was created 1951 by SAB. Furthermore SAB has functions as coordinator for all types of Libraries in many big projects, for example: Standardizing National Rules for Cataloguing and Classification. More about SAB can be read in the special page attached to my paper.

In Sweden there are other Library Associations but only the Swedish Library Association (SAB) consists of all types of Libraries, I will mention some of the most influential ones:

The Swedish Society for Technical Documentation, founded 1936, is a professional non-profit association. The common interest of its members is information and documentation. The Society has 37 institutional and about 1.450 individual members.

The Swedish Research Library Association, founded 1921, has about 900 individual members.

One essential question that arose some years ago is if the Swedish Library System would become stronger if we put all the Associations together under some sort of Umbrella-organization. This question has not been analyzed enough in Sweden.

Another interesting question in Swedish Library Life is the demarcation and coordination with trade unions in Libraries. As an example I can mention the Swedish trade union for Public Librarians, founded 1938, with about 3,000 individual members. This trade union does not only deal with salary questions etc. but is also concerned with the contents of the work of their members, the working conditions. I do not think that Library People look upon this as a form of rivalry, even though they have to pay fees for membership in the Library Association as well as in the union.

All that I have said shows that there are a number of questions to be discussed in a Round Table for Library Associations. For example:

1. Which tasks are the most important for a Library Association?
2. What is the role of a Library Association in creating public opinion? In what situations have the opinions of Library Associations been important?
3. Which different types of organizations of Library Associations are there among the members of IFLA? How do the Library Associations communicate with their members?
4. SAB has a very small secretariat. Would it be possible to find a standard, a rule for how big a secretariate of a Library Association ought to be in relation to the number of members?
5. How should we gather information on the fields and subjects the different Library Association have given priority? In what fields do Research Libraries and Public Libraries cooperate?

The questions could be multiplied. But the difficulties for the Round Table are rather how to inform its members of the outcome of the work. The members of the board of this Round Table could contribute to better and quicker information to the members of IFLA - through news-bulletins and through the IFLA Journal.

Library Associations ought to be encouraged to write about their activities in special bulletins, with a good lay-out, which could then be sent to the Library Associations. The Library Associations should be encouraged to write about different Library question in general which could be published in the IFLA Journal.

This is, however, very general. What is important is to have practical and pedagogical material ready for the next IFLA-meeting in Munich. Then it would be easier to discuss in a realistic and concrete manner future plans

and methods. Therefore SAB would like to propose some ideas for the board to begin with:

- Make a survey of the most important tasks of today and tomorrow within 15-18 selected Library Associations and publish the result of it in the IFLA Journal or elsewhere,
- gather information leaflets about the organization of the Library Association in various countries. Ask some countries to produce such leaflets,
- try to use AV-Media for the presentations: slides or video. Is there for example any country that could make a presentation of its Library Association using this kind of Media?
- Let some Library Associations have their policy and goals translated into English and perhaps some other languages.

It is necessary for a small country like Sweden to have broad international cooperation. This cooperation is very well developed among the Nordic countries in many fields. The cooperation has, however, mostly concerned Research Libraries, University Libraries, National Libraries etc. At least until now. According to a decision in a joint Nordic State Authority Public Library Cooperation will also be promoted. Education through courses and confernces has been given priority.

The Library Associations in the Nordic countries meet regularly in different groups. The big Nordic Library Meetings take place every fourth year - next time in Iceland 1984. The theme of this meeting will also be "1984" thinking of George Orwell and New Technology.

Nordic committees work with different tasks. One committee for example will publish a handbook for Library Service to Immigrants to be used in all the Nordic countries.

The cooperation between the secretariats of the Library Associations of the Nordic countries is very intense.

It is the success of this cooperation that makes the Swedish Library Association convinced of the necessity of a Round Table for Library Associations.

Conclusion

The Swedish Library Association feels that forming a Round Table for Library Associations will improve and intensify International Library Cooperation.